

A KINETIC STUDY OF THE DISSOLUTION  
OF NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC SPHALERITE  
IN AQUEOUS SULPHURIC ACID AND IN  
ACIDIC FERRIC SULPHATE MEDIA

by

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This thesis is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Natal.

PREFACE

I hereby declare that the material incorporated in this thesis is my own original and unaided work except where specific acknowledgement is made, and has not been submitted for a degree at any other university or institution.



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To

RHODA , LOIS and JANICE

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A B S T R A C T

Four sphalerites (synthetic, high grade natural, moderately impure flotation concentrate and highly impure flotation concentrate) were leached in acid sulphate media without and with ferric ions present under the following conditions :-

$$\text{Case (i)} \quad [\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 = 0,0$$

$$\text{Case (ii)} \quad [\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \geq 1,8$$

$$\text{Case (iii)} \quad [\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 = 0,1$$

Extensive data for leaching under these conditions are tabulated. Kinetic mechanisms based on Langmuir-Hinshelwood adsorption theories were proposed, and leaching models were developed for different assumed rate limiting steps. The initial rate and overall forms of the models were tested using experimental data.

Leaching under case (i) conditions

Non-oxidative dissolution took place with  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  the predominant reaction products. The  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  partial pressure was monitored continuously and solution samples were taken for analysis at discrete time intervals.

Vibratory (i.e. attrition) milling eliminated very large differences observed in the leaching characteristics of course size fractions of the

natural sphalerites.

The initial rate form of a model based on a dual site reaction mechanism and on either  $H^+$  adsorption or reaction product desorption rate control was found to fit the data for the synthetic and vibratory milled forms of sphalerite. The most impure vibratory milled sphalerite adsorbed  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $H_2S$  very strongly, and this resulted in product desorption rate control. Vibratory milled forms of the high grade natural sphalerite and the moderately impure flotation concentrate, exhibited virtually identical initial rate dissolution kinetics, despite large differences in their chemical compositions.

#### Leaching under case (ii) conditions

Oxidative dissolution took place with  $Zn^{2+}$  and elemental sulphur the predominant reaction products. Scanning electron microscope photographs of leached and unleached particles showed the sulphur present on the particle surface. These photographs, and optical microscope photographs of etched polished sections, showed that dissolution took place in a complex way.

A model based on ferric ion adsorption as the rate limiting step was proposed and confirmed experimentally. The model demonstrated a proportional dependency of the rate on the area and ferric ion concentration, and an inverse dependency on the hydrogen ion concentration. For a  $-90,0 + 63,0 \mu m$  size fraction, the three natural sphalerites exhibited virtually identical dissolution rates per unit area.

The effect of ball milling or vibratory milling the sphalerites fine, was to increase the rate per unit area for the most impure natural sphalerite but decrease the rate per unit area for the high grade natural sphalerite.

It was shown that for coarse size fractions of sphalerite, the most impure sphalerite which leached slowest under case (i) conditions (i.e. adsorbed  $H^+$  poorly) leached fastest under case (ii) conditions (i.e. adsorbed  $Fe^{3+}$  strongly). The reverse was true for the high grade natural sphalerite.

Except in the case of synthetic sphalerite leaching under case (i) conditions, no correlation was shown to exist between the way the B.E.T. measured area changed, and the way the calculated active area changed during leaching.

#### Leaching under case (iii) conditions

Oxidative and non-oxidative dissolution, as well as  $H_2S$  oxidation by  $Fe^{3+}$  occurred simultaneously. The extents to which oxidative or non-oxidative dissolution occurred could be explained in terms of the hydrogen ion and ferric ion adsorption characteristics of the sphalerites.

The ferric ion oxidation of  $H_2S$  was studied in the absence and presence of solids, and the presence of sphalerite or activated charcoal catalysed this reaction. No advantage was gained by leaching in the presence of activated charcoal with or without  $Fe^{3+}$  present, unless conditions were such that  $H_2S$  was formed as a product of reaction.



N O M E N C L A T U R E

Latin Symbols

$A_0$	initial specific surface area, as determined using a $N_2$ adsorption technique.
$A$	specific surface area of a sphalerite during leaching.
$A'$	area coefficient defined by equation F. 8.
$A_E$	pre-exponential factor appearing in Arrhenius type equations (e.g. equation 3.35).
$A_{SPH}$	surface area calculated theoretically for a solid sphere.
$a$	constant appearing in equation F. 7.
$B$	a constant used in equation F. 3.
$C_i$	molar concentration of specie $i$
$\bar{D}$	mean diameter of particle, representing the arithmetic mean of the upper and lower size fraction limits.
$E_a$	activation energy with units (mJ/kg-mol).
$K$	equilibrium constant, generally subscripted
$K_\phi$	proportionality constant defined by equation 2.1.
$k$	rate constant, generally subscripted.
$k_f$ ; $k_r$	forward and reverse rate constants appearing in equation 1.1.
$M$	mass of solid in reactor.
$M V_i$	molar volume of specie $i$ .
$M W_i$	molecular weight of specie $i$ .
$P_{H_2S}$	$H_2S$ partial pressure.
$R$	universal gas constant (when used in Arrhenius type equation with $E_a$ expressed in mJ/kg-mol units, $R = 8305,6$ ).



r	rate of reaction, usually subscripted (e.g. $(r_A)_0 = \frac{d[Zn^{2+}]}{dt}$ ).
$r^*$ $r^\ominus$ or	rate of reaction per unit area, usually subscripted.
T	temperature.
t	time.
X	extent of reaction.

### Greek Symbols

$\epsilon$	voidage, as defined by equation 2.6.
$\eta(X)$	specific surface area change function, defined by equation F.4.
$\Theta$	leaching selectivity factor, defined by equation 6.2.
$\lambda(\bar{0})$	specific initial rate constant ratio, as defined by equation 3.45.
$\mu$ or $\mu m$	micron ( $10^{-6}$ m).
$v_i$	activity coefficient of specie i.
$\rho_i$	density of specie i.
$\phi$	active site concentration, defined by equation 2.1.
$\phi(X)$	active site concentration change function.
$\psi_i(X)$	active site ratio function, defined by equations 4.1 to 4.4 for $i = 1$ to 4.
$\Omega(X)$	rate constant ratio defined by equation 4.10.
$\omega$	rate constant ratio defined by equation 5.5.
$\omega^*$	H <sub>2</sub> S oxidation rate ratio, defined by equation 6.5.
$\infty$	infinity.

Subscripts

a	refers to adsorbed specie, (e.g. $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_a$ ).
E	as in $A_E$ .
exp	refers to values measured directly from experimental data.
eq	refers to the equilibrium state (e.g. $K_{eq}$ ).
fit	refers to values of a variable or parameter which are obtained by a regression fitting technique.
g	refers to the gas phase.
l	refers to the liquid phase.
mod	refers to the modified rate constant defined by equation 5.4.
MA	as in $K_{AMA}$ (equation 2.37); refers to the mass action equilibrium constant.
o	refers to initial value of a parameter (e.g. $[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0$ or $M_0$ etc.
ref	refers to reference lines fitted through $-90,0 + 75,0 \mu\text{m}$ and $-75,0 + 63,0 \mu\text{m}$ data points on Arrhenius type plots of case (ii) data (figures 3.18 - 3.20) and defined by equation 3.45.
TOT	total, as in $[\text{Fe}]_{TOT}$ , the total iron dissolved.
v	refers to vacant sites.

Superscripts

o	refers to the elemental state of a specie such as elemental sulphur: $S^o$
*	as in $r^*$ , referring to rate per unit area
⊕	as in $r^{\oplus}$ referring to rate per unit area squared.
—	representing the mean value of a parameter, such as $\bar{D}$

Special Operators

- [ ] indicates that the concentration of the specie enclosed is referred to (e.g.  $[H_2SO_4]$ ).
- d differential, as in  $\frac{d [Zn^{2+}]}{dt}$ .
- $\Sigma$  cumulative summation operator.
- represents an active site on the sphalerite surface.
- $\Delta$  difference, as in equation 3.29.

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CHAPTER 1REVIEW OF PREVIOUS WORKIntroduction

Current pyrometallurgical technology for the production of zinc from sphaleritic flotation concentrate is often associated with atmospheric discharge of sulphur dioxide rich gases or sulphuric acid by-product disposal problems. Such problems may be overcome by hydrometallurgical zinc recovery processes. This thesis reports results relating to a study of one such hydrometallurgical route, namely the dissolution of sphalerite in aqueous acidic ferric sulphate. In this process the sphaleritic zinc reports as zinc ions in solution, and the sulphidic sulphur reports predominantly as elemental sulphur.

Although the results of semi-quantitative research on this process have been reported, very few complete kinetic studies for the whole system are available - in particular where natural rather than synthetic sphalerite was used. The presence of elemental oxygen and conditions of elevated temperature and pressure frequently made it virtually impossible to isolate and study the effects and role of hydrogen ions and ferric ions in the dissolution mechanism. The most popular theory postulates that the hydrogen ions react with zinc sulphide to produce zinc ions and dissolved hydrogen sulphide gas, followed by the homogeneous phase oxidation of  $H_2S$  by ferric ions.



A review of the current literature revealed that several workers have studied the kinetics of  $H_2S$  production by leaching synthetic sphalerite in aqueous sulphuric acid without elemental oxygen or ferric ions present. Other workers have studied the homogeneous oxidation of dissolved  $H_2S$  gas by ferric ions with no sphaleritic solids present in the reactor.

However, the evidence produced to date is inconclusive relating to the sequential  $H_2S$  production and oxidation model. The effects of adsorption of ionic species, sulphur blinding and other topochemical phenomena have often been neglected.

The present study and in particular the following literature review consequently includes within its scope of investigation :

- (i) the kinetics of leaching natural and synthetic sphalerite in aqueous sulphuric acid as well as in aqueous acidic ferric sulphate media;
- (ii) the kinetics of oxidising  $H_2S$  by ferric ions in aqueous sulphuric acid in the absence as well as in the presence of sphalerite particles;
- (iii) the sphalerite surface area characteristics before and after leaching, the effects of sulphur blinding of the surface and other aspects relating to the topography of sphalerite particles.

1.1 LEACHING IN AQUEOUS SULPHURIC ACID

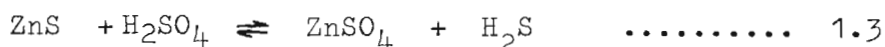
Romankiw (1962, 1965) produced a model for the dissolution of synthetic sphalerite in aqueous sulphuric acid by fitting the parameters of a proposed rate expression to experimental data, with the following result.

$$\frac{d[\text{Zn}^{2+}]}{dt} = \frac{d[\text{H}_2\text{S}]}{dt} = M_0 A_0 \eta(X) (k_f [\text{H}^+] - k_r [\text{H}_2\text{S}]^{0,5} [\text{Zn}^{2+}]^{0,5}) \quad \dots\dots\dots 1.1$$

The equilibrium constant which fitted the experimental equilibrium results was established as:

$$K_{\text{eq}} = \frac{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]^{0,5} [\text{H}_2\text{S}]^{0,5}}{[\text{H}^+]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 1.2$$

and the overall stoichiometry of the reaction was proposed as:



Romankiw proposed that the dissolution mechanism for ZnS could be represented by the reactions:

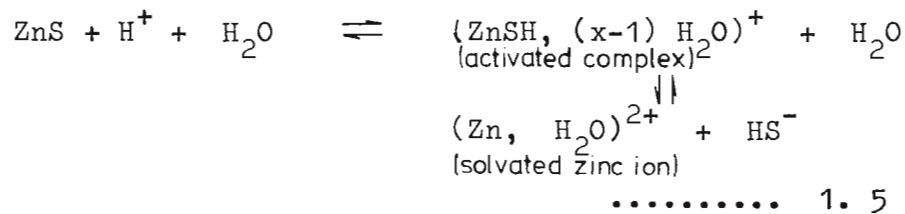


No fundamentally sound attempt was made to include the possible effects of adsorption of reactants onto,

or desorption of products from the sphalerite surface, or to propose the mechanism for the conversion of the  $S^{2-}$  ions to  $H_2S$ .

Verhulst (1974) leached synthetic sphalerite and tested the fit of equation 1.1 to his data. Apart from establishing an apparant square root dependency of the leaching rate on the solid area exposed, the equation did fit. No attempt was made to propose a mechanism.

Pohl (1954) demonstrated that the initial rate of dissolution of ZnS in aqueous sulphuric acid possessed a first order dependency on the hydrogen ion concentration. However, he presented evidence which suggested that  $HS^-$  was the most likely initial product of reaction of ZnS with  $H^+$  to form  $H_2S$ . Pohl implied that the dissolution mechanism proceeded via an intermediate activated complex, thus:



However, no attempt was made to relate the kinetics to surface phenomena or area.

Locker and de Bruyn (1969) demonstrated the proportional dependence of the initial rate on the area, and the first order dependency of the initial rate on  $[H^+]$  when dissolving group II-IV semiconductor compounds (including ZnS) in various

nonoxidising acids (including aqueous sulphuric acid). Results were presented which suggested that the activation energy of the forward reaction was independent of the impurity content or crystal structure of the ZnS, but was very dependent on the nature of the solution - which affected the properties of the solid-liquid interface. The overall dissolution rate was found to be very dependent on the impurity content or crystal structure of the material, owing to the effect these parameters had on the number of reactive surface sites available for reaction.

The following dissolution mechanism was proposed:

- (i) The initial adsorption of  $H^+$ , preferentially on sulphur sites, was the rate determining step.
- (ii) The surface reaction product which dissociated to  $HS^-$  reacted with  $H^+$  to form  $H_2S$ , which was transported away from the solid.

An initial rate equation was proposed which included terms for the potential of the  $H^+$  ion at the distance of closest approach before adsorption onto the surface; the potential gradient between the solid surface and the bulk fluid; and a dissolution activation energy which was dependent on the surface bonding characteristics and on the interaction between the charged solid surface and the ions in solution.

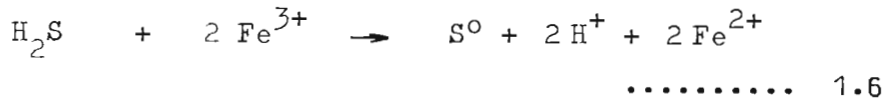


No attempt was made to assign numerical values to these various terms, or fit the proposed rate equation to experimental data. Neither was any attempt made to include the effects of the reverse reaction in their proposed mechanisms or rate expressions.

The author is unaware of any fundamental research in which the kinetics or mechanisms of dissolving natural sphaleritic material in aqueous sulphuric acid have been studied.

### 1.2 OXIDATION OF H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup>

Veltman (1968), Exner (1969) and Verhulst (1974) have proposed that the mechanism for the dissolution of sphalerite in acidic ferric sulphate media consists of the initial production of H<sub>2</sub>S according to equation 1.3, followed by the irreversible homogeneous phase oxidation of the H<sub>2</sub>S by Fe<sup>3+</sup> to elemental sulphur as follows:



Verhulst (1974) tentatively suggested that the presence of sphalerite solids catalysed this reaction, but produced no evidence to conclusively prove this theory. The author is unaware of any attempts to demonstrate whether sphalerite does in fact catalyse reaction 1.6 or not. Verhulst studied the homogeneous phase oxidation of H<sub>2</sub>S by Fe<sup>3+</sup> and produced the following rate expression:

$$\frac{d[H_2S]}{dt} = \frac{2d[Fe^{3+}]}{dt} = 0,947 \times 10^{14} \exp\left(\frac{-57,72}{RT}\right) \times \frac{[H_2S]^{1,44}[Fe^{3+}]^{1,58}}{[H_2SO_4]^{2,49}} \dots\dots\dots 1.7$$

Moldenhauer (1926) established a similar rate equation but with a 2nd order dependency of the rate on the  $[Fe^{3+}]$ , and an approximately 2nd order inverse dependency of the rate on the  $[H_2SO_4]$ . However, the activation energy appeared to vary as a function of the acid concentration, and the dependence of the rate on acid concentration appeared to vary as a function of temperature. The author did not attempt to resolve this anomaly, and these results have been disregarded for the purpose of this thesis.

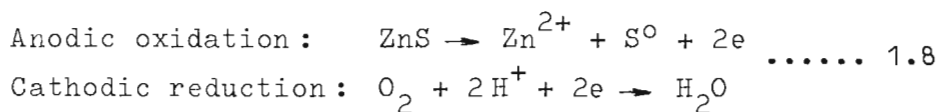
Verhulst proposed several mechanisms in an attempt to explain the dependence of the reaction rate on the  $H_2S$ ,  $Fe^{3+}$  and  $H_2SO_4$  concentrations as shown in equation 1.7. None were entirely satisfactory because his experiments were designed primarily to produce kinetic rate expressions of practical importance rather than to provide a basis for establishing the most probable mechanism.

### 1.3 LEACHING IN ACIDIC FERRIC SULPHATE

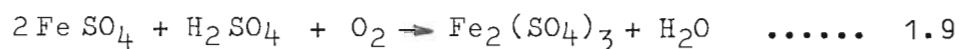
Dutrizac (1974) published an extensive review on the use of ferric ion as a leaching medium. He commented that most of the works available for review were intended merely to demonstrate that

sphalerite could be readily dissolved under certain conditions, and consequently the kinetics were not extensively studied. In particular, studies in which only ferric ions were present as the oxidant were rare. Many studies included the presence of elemental oxygen and this made it difficult to determine the kinetics or mechanisms.

Elemental oxygen present in the system could react electrochemically with the sphalerite as proposed by Exner (1969) or Habashi (1970):



or be consumed by re-oxidising ferrous ions to their ferric state as follows:



Only the results of studies in which ferric ions were the sole oxidant are referred to in this thesis.

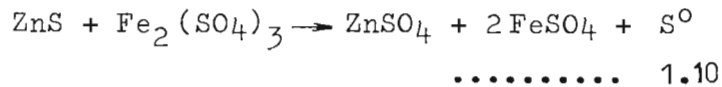
Kuzminkh (1950) leached two different natural sphalerites in acidic ferric sulphate media under the following conditions:

20,0 g/l	≅ Pulp density	≅ 152,0 g/l
2,5 g/l	≅ [H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ]	≅ 20,0 g/l
20,0 g/l	≅ [Fe <sup>3+</sup> ]	≅ 80,0 g/l
80,0 °C	≅ Temperature	≅ 100,0 °C
0	≅ [Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>0</sub>	≅ 80,0 g/l

where [Zn<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>0</sub> is the initial zinc ion concentration in solution.

The following results were observed:

- (i) An activation energy was observed such that diffusion rate control was suspected.
- (ii) The dissolution rate was directly proportional to the initial mass of sphalerite present.
- (iii) The dissolution rate was approximately proportional to the ferric ion concentration.
- (iv) The dissolution rate was inversely proportional to the sulphuric acid concentration.
- (v) Increasing the initial zinc ion concentration in the solution for a given set of conditions, only slightly reduced the rate of dissolution.
- (vi) Elemental sulphur was produced stoichiometrically in accordance with the overall reaction:



- (vii) The two sphalerites which were mineralogically very different, leached initially at similar rates under equivalent conditions. However, under similar conditions the maximum zinc which could be dissolved was in excess of 80,0% for one of the sphalerites and only about 33,0% for the other. It was suspected that in the latter case the fine intergrowth of different minerals was such that the ZnS was combined with FeS in solid solution as a

complex  $ZnFeS_2$  compound. Other compounds similar to this one (for example, chalcopyrite -  $CuFeS_2$ ) were claimed to be very stable in acidic ferric sulphate solutions.

(viii) The presence of  $H_2S$  was not reported.

No attempt was made to explain the mechanism of the dissolution reactions.

Verhulst (1974) leached synthetic sphalerite in aqueous sulphuric acid in the presence of small ferric ion concentrations so that  $H_2S$  was detected. However, the resultant rates of production of  $H_2S$  were significantly different to rates predicted by solving the two differential rate equations 1.1 and 1.7 simultaneously. Verhulst did not consider the possibility of  $Fe^{3+}$  attacking the sphalerite directly.

He did, however, suggest that the sphalerite present in the system may have catalysed the oxidation reaction, but his data was inadequate to prove this. No attempt was made to propose a mechanism for the reactions.

#### 1.4 SURFACE PHENOMENA ASSOCIATED WITH SPHALERITE LEACHING

In order to develop mathematical expressions which meaningfully model and permit comparisons to be made between the dissolution kinetics of different

sphalerites, some measure of the accessible active site concentration needs to be incorporated in the models. Furthermore, the way in which the active site concentration varies during the course of dissolution should be known.

The surface area, as measured by B.E.T.  $N_2$  or Krypton gas adsorption techniques, is often assumed to be proportional to the active site concentration of a given mineral. Clearly such measurements would include the surface area of gangue and other non-sphaleritic material associated with sphalerite, and the surface area of pores and cracks within the sphalerite particles which are not necessarily accessible to leaching.

Lovell (1975) presented evidence which demonstrated that the pretreatment of a given mineral significantly affected the B.E.T. gas adsorption surface area determination. For example, ground samples of galena which had been screened and elutriated in the same way gave surface areas ranging between 158,0 and 220,0  $m^2 kg^{-1}$ . Galena samples containing surface xanthate generally gave lower areas than those with surfaces of either pure  $PbS$  or containing oxidation products such as  $PbSO_4$ .

Factors such as preheating and time of exposure to air also appeared to exert some effect. Thus one could reasonably expect to experience difficulty in obtaining comparative surface area measurements for different sphalerites, especially in the case of flotation concentrates obtained from different mines which had been exposed to different, unknown milling histories and flotation reagents.



The author is unaware of any attempts to experimentally establish how the surface area of a synthetic or natural sphalerite changes during the course of leaching. The shrinking core model which assumes each particle to be represented as a solid sphere with a diameter continuously shrinking during the course of leaching, is often used as a basis for describing the manner in which the area changes during leaching.

Levenspiel (1964) and Smith (1970) use this model extensively to develop models for heterogeneous reactions in which a solid reactant is consumed. In the event of a reaction product ash layer or shell being continuously formed around an unreacted core, the diffusion of reactants to or products from the solid surface could become rate controlling and the dependence of the overall rate on the residual particle core surface area is reduced.

In the event of a stagnant fluid shell existing around a particle as a result of inadequate agitation, diffusion of species to and from the particle surface could become rate limiting, and the dependence of the leaching rate on the particle surface area becomes less.

1.5 TECHNIQUES FOR MONITORING THE REACTION  
KINETICS OF SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS  
SULPHURIC ACID

Romankiw (1962) and Verhulst (1974) measured the reaction kinetics of synthetic sphalerite leaching in

aqueous sulphuric acid manometrically by monitoring the increase in reactor pressure resulting from the production of  $H_2S$ . Difficulties were experienced trying to monitor the initial rates of pressure increase, and solution samples were generally taken for analysis only when equilibrium had been reached.

Consequently the effects of gas cap heating up (after introducing the solids) on the initial rate of increase in pressure and on the final pressure were difficult to establish.

Locker and de Bruyn (1969) adopted a technique in which the change in volume was monitored during the dissolution reaction. A pressure sensing device was linked to a driven piston arrangement, in order to maintain a constant pressure and measure the change in volume.

No attempt appears to have been reported to measure a solution related variable (such as zinc ion concentration). This possibly results from the fact that between the time of sampling and filtering the solids, dissolution continues. Such dissolution would tend to be accelerated in the event of  $H_2S$  desorbing from the sample to the atmosphere prior and during filtration. Since the initial rate of dissolution may be very rapid, errors resulting from continued dissolution prior to filtration would be large for samples taken shortly after commencement of the reaction. Thus it would be extremely difficult to measure initial rate kinetics in such a manner.

The author was unaware of the approach adopted by Locker and de Bruyn until only towards the completion of his project. In view of the problems associated with measuring a solution related variable as discussed above, the approach adopted in this thesis has therefore been to monitor the  $H_2S$  partial pressure.

It will be seen, in this thesis, that techniques were developed which eliminated many of the sources of error which appeared to be present in the research of Romankiw and Verhulst.

## 1.6 ELECTROKINETIC AND THERMODYNAMIC CONSIDERATIONS

### 1.6.1 Electrokinetic considerations

When a solid such as sphalerite is placed in an electrolyte such as aqueous  $H_2SO_4$  or acidic ferric sulphate, electrokinetic phenomena generally occur as a result of the ionic diffusion, adsorption, reaction and desorption processes taking place at the active solid surface.

Potential differences are formed in the contact zone as a result of differences in mobilities of the ions. The charge transport between diffusing positive and negative ions do not cancel and an electric field is established in the absence of an external

current flowing. The potential gradient thus set up superimposes itself on any existing concentration gradient. The Nernst-Planck equation expresses the relationship between these phenomena - (Helfferick, 1962).

In addition to the electrokinetic phenomena just mentioned, an electrical double layer or potential could be set up on the solid side of the sphalerite-solution interface as a result of the establishment of equilibria for exchangeable potential determining ions such as  $Zn^{2+}$  or  $S^{2-}$  (Vermilyea, 1966).

When the concentration of charge carriers in a semi-conductor such as ZnS is large, this double layer becomes negligible - (Woods, 1972). However, as the parameters associated with the electrokinetic and the double layer potential are difficult, if not impossible to measure, they are ignored for the purpose of this thesis. It is therefore implicitly assumed in this study that whilst these phenomena may occur, that the rate limiting steps are not dependent on them.

#### 1.6.2 Thermodynamic considerations

The effects of concentration changes on the activities of various ionic species in solution are generally ignored in this thesis.

Thus the activity coefficients are assumed to be equal to unity so that the mass action and the equilibrium constants are equal. Under certain circumstances this assumption may not be valid, especially for solutions of higher ionic strengths. However, under initial rate conditions this assumption is probably justified.

1. 7 EFFECT OF THE MODE OF MILLING ON THE SPHALERITE DISSOLUTION RATE

Gerlach (1971 . 1973) subjected several different base metal sulphides (including sphalerite) to a vibratory (sometimes called attrition) mode of milling. He claimed that:-

- a) crystal lattice straining occurred which resulted in an activation of the mineral which could not be attained by ball or rod milling;
- b) the extent of activation was related to measureable x-ray diffraction pattern peak broadening, which disappeared on heat-annealing the mineral in an inert environment;
- c) Very large dissolution rates of the activated minerals were observed.

Beckstead, Wadsworth et al (1976) compared the leaching kinetics of attrition milled and ball milled chalcopyrite in acidic ferric sulphate media and showed inter-alia that:-



- a) Attrition milling of chalcopyrite concentrate increased the specific surface area 4,73 times (after 1,0 hour milling); 5,27 times (after 2,0 hour milling); and 8,0 times (after 3,0 hour milling). However, ball milling of the same concentrate for 3,0 - 24,0 hours produced only a 2,47 - 2,93 times maximum increase in specific surface area.
- b) The increase in the initial rate of dissolution of chalcopyrite was directly proportional to the initial specific surface area and independent of the mode of milling.
- c) Although attrition milling did result in x-ray diffraction pattern peak broadening (which could be eliminated by heat treatment), the attrition milled chalcopyrite leached identically after the heat treatment as before.

The author is unaware of any attempt by Gerlach or anyone else to compare the leaching rate per unit area of vibratory milled and ball milled sphalerite, and this aspect is dealt with briefly in this thesis.



C H A P T E R    2

PROPOSED SPHALERITE LEACHING MECHANISMS

AND DERIVED MATHEMATICAL MODELS

2. 1     Introduction

In this chapter two mechanisms are proposed for the leaching of sphalerite :

Mechanism 1 - based on single site reaction kinetics

Mechanism 2 - based on dual site reaction kinetics

Mathematical models are derived for each mechanism using Langmuir - Hinselwood kinetic theories, in which either surface adsorption or surface desorption phenomena constitute the rate limiting step. Leaching models for the following three  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_o : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_o$  ratios are considered :

Case (i) :  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_o : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_o = 0$   
(no  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  present)

Case (ii) :  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_o : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_o$  is large  
(approximately  $\geq 1,8$ )

Case (iii) :  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_o : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_o$  is small  
(approximately  $\leq 0,1$ )

Table 2.1 summarises the main features and designations of case (i), (ii) & (iii) models for mechanisms 1 and 2.

Case	$[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_o : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_o$	Mechanism 1 <sup>*</sup> Model	Mechanism 2 <sup>⊕</sup> Model	Main feature of model
(i)	= 0, 0	A	F	Leaching models based on H <sup>+</sup> adsorption rate control.
		B	G	Leaching models based on product desorption rate control
(ii)	≅ 1, 8	C	H	Leaching models based on competitive adsorption of H <sup>+</sup> and Fe <sup>3+</sup> with negligible dissolution contributed by the H <sup>+</sup> .
(iii)	≅ 0, 1	D	I	Models for the homogeneous phase oxidation of H <sub>2</sub> S by Fe <sup>3+</sup> .
		E	J	Leaching models based on competitive adsorption of H <sup>+</sup> and Fe <sup>3+</sup> with significant dissolution contributed by the H <sup>+</sup> and Fe <sup>3+</sup> , and homogeneous oxidation of H <sub>2</sub> S by Fe <sup>3+</sup> occurring simultaneously.

\* Mechanism based on single site reaction kinetics

⊕ Mechanism based on dual site reaction kinetics

T A B L E 2. 1.

SUMMARY OF NOMENCLATURE USED TO DEFINE THE MODELS CORRESPONDING TO CASES (i), (ii) AND (iii) OF PROPOSED MECHANISMS 1 & 2

In chapter 3 the initial rate forms of the case (i) and case (ii) leaching models are quantitatively tested using experimental initial rate results. This is done in order to discriminate between the two mechanisms, and to identify which of the models best fit the sphalerite leaching kinetics.

In chapter 4 the overall forms of the case (i) and case (ii) models selected in chapter 3 are tested by fitting to overall experimental rate data.

In chapter 5 the case (iii) models are tested qualitatively.

## 2. 2      GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS

In order to simplify the task of proposing mechanisms and deriving models, the following assumptions are made. Several of these assumptions relate to kinetic, electrokinetic and thermodynamic considerations discussed in section 1.6 .

- (i) The concepts of adsorption and kinetics rest on Langmuir - Hinselwood theories. Smith ( 1970 ) described these theories, presented source references and gave examples in which these theories were used to formulate models for heterogeneous catalytic reaction mechanisms. A similar approach has been adopted here.
  
- (ii) Electrokinetic phenomena which may exist at solution - solid interfaces and within

the solid are constant for a given system; do not influence leaching kinetics and can be ignored when proposing mechanisms and developing models.

- (iii) Charge balance must be maintained between ionic species approaching and leaving the solid surface.
- (iv) Diffusion of reactant or product species at solid-liquid and liquid-gas interfaces are not rate limiting (Romankiw (1962) and Verhulst (1974) tested for and found these phenomena to be negligible when leaching synthetic sphalerite in aqueous  $H_2SO_4$  under conditions similar to those used in this thesis).
- (v) The total initial active site concentration  $\phi_0$  is defined as -

$$\phi_0 = K_{\phi} M_0 A_0 \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.1$$

where  $M_0$  = mass of sphalerite;  
 $A_0$  = specific surface area determined using a B.E.T.  $N_2$  adsorption technique;  
 $K_{\phi}$  = proportionality constant relating  $\phi_0$  to  $A_0$ .

In this study  $K_{\phi}$  is implicitly incorporated into the leaching rate constants.

- (vi) During leaching the total active site concentration  $\phi_o$  consists of vacant sites  $\phi_v$  and adsorbed sites, (i.e. sites occupied by adsorbed species).

Thus -

$$\phi_o = \phi_v + \sum [C_i]_a \dots\dots\dots 2.2$$

where  $[C_i]_a$  = concentration of active sites occupied by adsorbed species  $C_i$ .

Dividing equation 2.2 throughout by  $\phi_v$  and rearranging gives -

$$\phi_v = \phi_o / \left( 1,0 + \sum \frac{[C_i]_a}{\phi_v} \right) \dots\dots 2.3$$

- (vii)  $[H^+]$  is equal to  $[H_2SO_4]$  over the full temperature and  $[H_2SO_4]$  range investigated.
- (viii) Activity coefficients for various species in solution are implicitly included in the reaction rate constants, and are hence assumed to be independent of changes in ionic strength over the concentration ranges investigated.
- (ix) Elemental sulphur formed in-situ in the solid reaction zone is sufficiently permeable that diffusion of ionic or other species through such a  $S^0$  layer does not become rate limiting.

(Note that the molar volumes for sphalerite and elemental sulphur are -

$$M V_{ZnS} = \frac{M W_{ZnS}}{\rho_{ZnS}} = \frac{97,37}{4,0} = 24,34 \text{ m}^3 \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.4$$

$$M V_{S^0} = \frac{M W_{S^0}}{\rho_{S^0}} = \frac{32,0}{2,0} = 16,0 \text{ m}^3 \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.5$$

where  $M V_i$  represents the molar volume of specie  $i$ ;

$M W_i$  represents the molecular weight of specie  $i$ ;

$\rho_i$  represents the density of specie  $i$ .

Assuming the  $S^0$  shell occupies the same volume as the original sphalerite from which it was formed, the voidage  $\epsilon$  of the  $S^0$  shell should be -

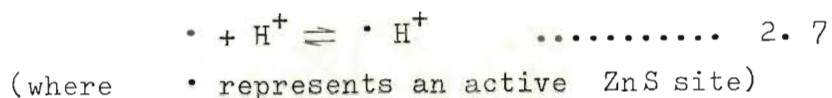
$$\epsilon = 1,0 - \frac{M V_{S^0}}{M V_{ZnS}} = 0,33 \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.6$$

This implies that the  $S^0$  shell is relatively porous. This fact, and the fact that  $S^0$  may be removed by attrition during the course of leaching in a well agitated reactor, is presented as justification for making this assumption.)

## 2.3 MECHANISM 1 BASED ON SINGLE SITE REACTION KINETICS

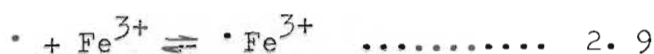
The following sequence of reaction steps are proposed. The equilibrium constants corresponding to each reaction step are defined here for use in section 2.4.



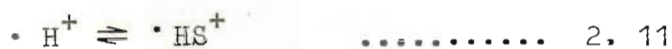
Adsorption

$$K_1 = \frac{[\text{H}^+]_a}{\phi_v [\text{H}^+]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.8$$

(where subscript 'a' refers to the adsorbed specie)



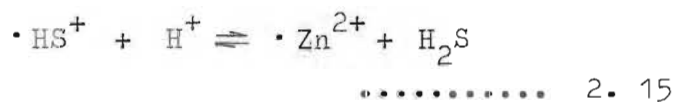
$$K_2 = \frac{[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_a}{\phi_v [\text{Fe}^{3+}]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.10$$

Dissociation of adsorbed species

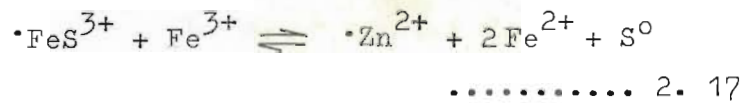
$$K_3 = \frac{[\text{HS}^+]_a}{[\text{H}^+]_a} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.12$$



$$K_4 = \frac{[\text{FeS}^{3+}]_a}{[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_a} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.14$$

Reaction of single dissociated specie with homogeneous phase reactants

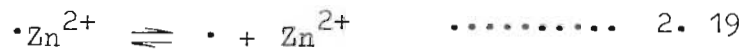
$$K_5 = \frac{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]_a [\text{H}_2\text{S}]_l}{[\text{HS}^+]_a [\text{H}^+]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.16$$



This reaction is considered to be irreversible, and elemental sulphur is considered to have been formed in-situ. Hence :-

$$K_6 \simeq \infty \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 18$$

Desorption of reaction products from the surface



$$K_7 = \frac{\phi_v [\text{Zn}^{2+}]}{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]_a} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 20$$

Diffusion of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  from liquid to gas phase



$$K_8 = \frac{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_g}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_\ell} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 22$$

If the ideal gas law is assumed to apply, then -

$$[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_g = \frac{P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{RT} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 23$$

and for a given reactor volume, temperature and  $[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]$  -

$$K_9 = K_8 RT = \frac{P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_\ell} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 24$$

$K_D$  represents the distribution coefficient  $K_D$  which relates the partial pressure of the  $H_2S$  in the gas cap to the liquid phase  $H_2S$  concentration. An empirical equation expressing  $K_D$  in terms of  $H_2SO_4$  and temperature is determined and presented in Appendix E (equation E.27)

Homogeneous phase oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$

A detailed study of this reaction is beyond the scope of this work, and consequently no attempt is made to propose a mechanism for this reaction. Equation 1.7 by Verhulst is accepted in section 2.4.3.1 as representing a model which describes the kinetics of this reaction.

Mechanism 1 implies that only  $H^+$ ,  $Fe^{3+}$  and  $Zn^{2+}$  ions are adsorbed, hence from equations 2.8, 2.10 and 2.20 -

$$\frac{[H^+]_a}{\phi_v} = K_1 [H^+] \dots\dots\dots 2.25$$

$$\frac{[Fe^{3+}]_a}{\phi_v} = K_2 [Fe^{3+}] \dots\dots\dots 2.26$$

and 
$$\frac{[Zn^{2+}]_a}{\phi_v} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}]}{K_7} \dots\dots\dots 2.27$$

If 
$$K_8 = 1.0 / K_7 \dots\dots\dots 2.28$$

then 
$$\frac{[Zn^{2+}]_a}{\phi_v} = K_8 [Zn^{2+}] \dots\dots\dots 2.29$$

Hence substituting for the  $\frac{C_i}{\phi_a}$  terms in equation 2.3 gives the vacant active site concentration in terms of known values of total active site concentration; the homogeneous phase concentrations of the adsorbed species; and unknown values of the adsorption and desorption equilibrium constants. Thus:-

$$\phi_v = \phi_0 / (1.0 + K_1 [H^+] + K_2 [Fe^{3+}] + K_8 [Zn^{2+}]) \dots\dots\dots 2.30$$

2.4 DERIVATION OF MODELS BASED ON MECHANISM 1

2.4.1 Case (i)  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 = 0,0$

2.4.1.1 Model A (based on the assumption that  $H^+$  adsorption represented by equation 2.7 is rate limiting)

In section 1.1 it was reported that Locker and de Bruyn (1969) demonstrated that the activation energies of the initial dissolution reaction for different sphalerites were equal, and independent of the impurity content or crystal structure of each sphalerite. They proposed that the initial adsorption of  $H^+$  was the rate limiting step.

The rate equation representing equation 2.7 is

$$r_A = k_1 \phi_v [H^+] - k_2 [H^+]_a \dots\dots\dots 2.31$$

Subsequent steps represented by equations 2.11, 2.15,

2.19 and 2.21 may be considered to be at equilibrium. Equation 2.31 may be expressed in terms of homogeneous phase concentrations as follows :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{From equation 2.12} \quad [H^+]_a &= [HS^+]_a / K_3 ; \\ \text{from equation 2.16} \quad [HS^+]_a &= \frac{[Zn^{2+}]_a [H_2S]}{K_5 [H^+]} ; \\ \text{and from equation 2.20} \quad [Zn^{2+}]_a &= \frac{\phi_v [Zn^{2+}]}{K_7} . \end{aligned}$$

Consecutive substitution into equation 2.31 gives -

$$r_A = k_1 \phi_v [H^+] - \frac{k_2 \phi_v [Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{K_5 K_7 K_3 [H^+]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.32$$

$$\text{Let } k_3 = \frac{k_2}{K_3 K_5 K_7} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.33$$

Then substituting equation 2.33 into 2.32 and rearranging gives -

$$r_A = \phi_v \left( k_1 [H^+] - k_3 \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{[H^+]} \right) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.34$$

Substitution for  $\phi_v$  by equation 2.30 gives :-

$$r_A = \frac{\phi_o}{(1.0 + K_1 [H^+] + K_8 [Zn^{2+}])} \left( k_1 [H^+] - k_3 \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{[H^+]} \right) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.35$$

The initial rate form of equation 2.35 is:-

$$r_{A_0} = \frac{k_1 \phi_o [H^+]_o}{(1.0 + K_1 [H^+]_o + K_8 [Zn^{2+}]_o)} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.36$$

As equilibrium is approached and  $r_A \rightarrow 0$  the mass action constant  $K_{MA}$  may be expressed as:-

$$K_{MA} = \frac{k_1}{k_3} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{[H^+]^2} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.37$$



(In section 2.2 (assumption (viii)) it was assumed that the activity coefficients for the various species are incorporated in the reaction rate constants.) The thermodynamic equilibrium constant  $K_{A_{EQ}}$  is thus -

$$K_{A_{EQ}} = K_{A_{MA}} \cdot \frac{v_{Zn^{2+}} v_{H_2S}}{v_{H^+}^2} \dots\dots\dots 2.38$$

where  $v_i$  represents activity coefficient of specie i.

2.4.1.2 Model B (based on the assumption that  $Zn^{2+}$  desorption represented by equation 2.19 is rate limiting)

In view of Locker and de Bruyn's observation discussed in section 2.4.1.1, the only other active site related step in Mechanism 1 which is likely to be independent of the impurity content or crystal structure of the sphalerite is the desorption of ions from active sites.

The rate equation for equation 2.19 is -

$$r_B = k_4 [Zn^{2+}]_a - k_5 \phi_v [Zn^{2+}] \dots\dots\dots 2.39$$

Steps preceding and subsequent to the reaction expressed by equation 2.19 are assumed to be at equilibrium.

Equation 2.39 may be expressed in terms of homogeneous phase concentrations as follows:

$$\text{From equation 2.16: } [\text{Zn}^{2+}]_a = \frac{K_5 [\text{HS}^+]_a [\text{H}^+]}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_l}$$

$$\text{From equation 2.12: } [\text{HS}^+]_a = K_3 [\text{H}^+]_a$$

$$\text{From equation 2.8: } [\text{H}^+]_a = K_1 \phi_v [\text{H}^+]$$

Consecutive substitution into equation 2.39 gives -

$$r_B = k_4 K_1 K_3 K_5 \phi_v \left( \frac{[\text{H}^+]^2}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_l} - k_5 \phi_v [\text{Zn}^{2+}] \right) \dots\dots\dots 2.40$$

$$\text{Let } k_6 = k_4 K_1 K_3 K_5 \dots\dots\dots 2.41$$

Substitute for  $\phi_v$  and  $k_4 K_1 K_3 K_5$  in equation 2.40 by equations 2.30 and 2.41 respectively and rearrange :

$$r_B = \frac{\phi_0}{(1 + K_1 [\text{H}^+] + K_8 [\text{Zn}^{2+}])} \left\{ K_6 \frac{[\text{H}^+]^2}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_l} - k_5 [\text{Zn}^{2+}] \right\} \dots\dots\dots 2.42$$

The initial rate form of equation 2.42 is :

$$r_{B_0} = \frac{\phi_0 k_6 [\text{H}^+]_0^2}{(1,0 + K_1 [\text{H}^+]_0 + K_8 [\text{Zn}^{2+}]_0) [\text{H}_2\text{S}]_{l_0}} \dots\dots\dots 2.43$$

and the mass action and equilibrium constants for equation 2.42 are :

$$K_{B_{MA}} = \frac{k_6}{k_5} = \frac{[\text{Zn}^{2+}] [\text{H}_2\text{S}]_l}{[\text{H}^+]^2} \dots\dots\dots 2.44$$

$$K_{B_{EQ}} = K_{B_{MA}} \times \frac{v_{\text{Zn}^{2+}} v_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{v_{\text{H}^+}^2} \dots\dots\dots 2.45$$

2.4.2 Case (ii)  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \approx 1,8$

2.4.2.1 Model C (based on the assumption that  $Fe^{3+}$  and  $H^+$  adsorb competitively and that for large  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0$  the  $H^+$  contributes negligibly to the dissolution reaction)

In section 1.3 it was reported that Kuzminkh (1950) established that two mineralogically very different sphalerites initially leached at similar rates under equivalent conditions. Furthermore the initial dissolution rate was found to be approximately proportional to the  $[Fe^{3+}]$ . Equation 2.9 is the only active site related step in Mechanism 1 which involves  $Fe^{3+}$  species which can take place independently of the mineralogical properties, and at rates proportion to the initial  $Fe^{3+}$ .

Kuzminkh also reported reaction rates to be inversely proportional to  $[H_2SO_4]$ . In order to explain this it is assumed here that the  $Fe^{3+}$  ions adsorb and react at much faster rates than do the  $H^+$  ions. Consequently the proportion of active sites occupied by relatively slow adsorbing and reacting  $H^+$  ions increases with increasing  $H_2SO_4$ . This in turn proportionally decreases the concentration of vacant sites available for  $Fe^{3+}$  adsorption and reaction. At high  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0$  ratios the contribution of the  $H^+$  reaction to the overall dissolution rate is assumed to be negligibly small in comparison to the contribution by the parallel  $Fe^{3+}$  reactions.

Thus the dissolution rate equation describing

equation 2.9 is -

$$r_C = k_7 \phi_v [\text{Fe}^{3+}] - k_8 [\text{Fe}^{3+}]_a \dots\dots\dots 2.46$$

Since the reaction described by equation 2.1 is irreversible, the reverse component of equation 2.46 reduces to zero. Thus equation 2.46 may be expressed as -

$$r_C = k_7 \phi_v [\text{Fe}^{3+}] \dots\dots\dots 2.47$$

According to Mechanism 1 the only species adsorbed on the surface are  $\text{H}^+$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ .

Substituting for  $\phi_v$  in equation 2.47 by equation 2.3 gives -

$$r_C = \frac{k_7 \phi_0 [\text{Fe}^{3+}]}{(1,0 + \sum \frac{[C_i]_a}{\phi_v})} \dots\dots\dots 2.48$$

Substituting

$$\text{equation 2.8 : } \frac{[\text{H}^+]_a}{\phi_v} = K_1 [\text{H}^+]$$

$$\text{equation 2.10 : } \frac{[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_a}{\phi_v} = K_2 [\text{Fe}^{3+}]$$

$$\text{and equation 2.29 : } \frac{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]_a}{\phi_v} = K_8 [\text{Zn}^{2+}]$$

into equation 2.48 gives -

$$r_C = \frac{k_7 \phi_0 [\text{Fe}^{3+}]}{(1,0 + K_1 [\text{H}^+] + K_2 [\text{Fe}^{3+}] + K_8 [\text{Zn}^{2+}])} \dots\dots\dots 2.49$$

If it is assumed that the  $H^+$  ions are much more strongly adsorbed than the  $Fe^{3+}$  or  $Zn^{2+}$  ions (i.e.  $K_{H^+} \gg K_{Fe^{3+}}$  or  $K_{Zn^{2+}}$ ) and that  $K_1 [H^+] \gg 1,0$ , equation 2.49 reduces to -

$$r_C = \frac{k_7 \phi_0 [Fe^{3+}]}{K_1 [H^+]} \dots\dots\dots 2.50$$

$$\text{Let } k_8 = \frac{k_7}{K_1} \dots\dots\dots 2.51$$

$$\text{then } r_C = k_8 \phi_0 \frac{[Fe^{3+}]}{[H^+]} \dots\dots\dots 2.52$$

Equation 2.52 also represents the initial rate of dissolution of sphalerite in high  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0$  ratio leach media, and is basically in agreement with the observations reported by Kuzminkh (i.e. proportional dependency of rate on initial area and  $[Fe^{3+}]_0$ , and inverse dependency of the rate on  $[H_2SO_4]_0$ ).

#### 2.4.3 Case (iii) : $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \leq 0,1$

##### 2.4.3.1 Model D (Homogeneous oxidation of $H_2S$ by $Fe^{3+}$ )

It is proposed that the empirical model developed by Verhulst (1974) and represented by equation 1.7 describes the kinetics of the homogeneous oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ . Model D may be represented as -

$$r_D = \frac{d[H_2S]}{dt} = - 0,947 \times 10^{14} \exp\left(\frac{-67,72}{RT}\right) \times \frac{[H_2S]^{1,44} [Fe^{3+}]^{1,69}}{[H_2SO_4]^{2,49}} \dots\dots\dots 2.53$$



2.4.3.2 Model E (based on the assumption that  $H^+$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  adsorb competitively; that for low  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0$  ratio both the  $H^+$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  contribute significantly to the dissolution; and that  $H_2S$  formed by the  $H^+$  is homogeneously oxidised by  $Fe^{3+}$ )

In section 1.3 it was reported that Verhulst leached synthetic sphalerite in aqueous sulphuric acid with low  $Fe^{3+}$  initially present. The  $H_2S$  partial pressure was monitored and observed to reach a peak and then decrease. He proposed that equation 1.1 described the  $H_2S$  formation kinetics and that the  $H_2S$  was oxidised homogeneously by the  $Fe^{3+}$  ions (at a rate described by equation 1.7). Comparison of the experimental rate data with computed solutions of the two simultaneous differential rate equations 1.1 and 1.7 demonstrated that the experimental  $H_2S$  pressure reached a peak and decreased significantly faster than the computed  $H_2S$  pressure. He proposed the possibility that the  $H_2S$  oxidation by  $Fe^{3+}$  may have been catalysed by the sphalerite solids present in the reactor.

In this study it is proposed that for low  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0$ ,  $Fe^{3+}$  and  $H^+$  adsorption are both slow steps occurring simultaneously and at comparable rates (reaction in parallel). The  $H_2S$  formed during dissolution is homogeneously oxidised by  $Fe^{3+}$  (reactions in series).

Assume that -

- a) equation 2.35 has an additional term in the denominator for the adsorption of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  thus

$$r_A = \frac{\phi_0}{(1.0 + K_1 [\text{H}^+] + K_2 [\text{Fe}^{3+}] + K_8 [\text{Zn}^{2+}]) \left( k_1 [\text{H}^+] - k_3 \frac{[\text{Zn}^{2+}] [\text{H}_2\text{S}]_e}{[\text{H}^+]} \right)} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.54$$

- b) equations 2.54 and 2.49 represent rate expressions for the dissolution reactions occurring in parallel, and
- c) equation 2.53 (representing the homogeneous oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  by  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ) occurs in series with the dissolution reaction described by equation 2.54.

The overall dissolution will then be obtained by simultaneously solving the following two differential equations:

$$r_{E1} = \frac{d[\text{Zn}^{2+}]}{dt} = r_A + r_B \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.55$$

$$r_{E2} = \frac{d[\text{H}_2\text{S}]}{dt} = r_A - r_D \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.56$$

where  $r_A$ ,  $r_B$  and  $r_D$  are described by equations 2.54, 2.49 and 2.53 respectively.

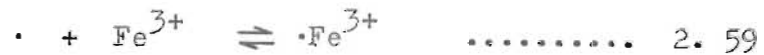
2. 5      MECHANISM 2 BASED ON DUAL SITE  
REACTION KINETICS

The following sequence of reaction steps are proposed. The equilibrium constants corresponding to each step are defined for use in section 2.6. Several steps which are identical to steps proposed for mechanism 1, are repeated here to simplify the presentation.

Adsorption



$$K_{11} = \frac{[\text{H}^+]_a}{\phi_v[\text{H}^+]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 58$$



$$K_{12} = \frac{[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_a}{\phi_v[\text{Fe}^{3+}]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 60$$

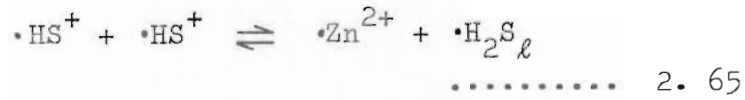
Dissociation



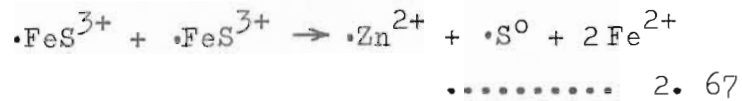
$$K_{13} = \frac{[\text{HS}^+]_a}{[\text{H}^+]_a} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 62$$



$$K_{14} = \frac{[\text{FeS}^{3+}]_a}{[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_a} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2. 64$$

Dual site reaction of adjacent dissociated species

$$K_{15} = \frac{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]_a [\text{H}_2\text{S}]_a}{[\text{HS}^+]_a^2} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.66$$



The elemental sulphur is assumed to form in-situ. This reaction is irreversible, hence for this reaction,

$$K_{16} \simeq \infty$$

Desorption

$$K_{17} = \frac{\phi_v[\text{Zn}^{2+}]}{[\text{Zn}^{2+}]_a} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.69$$



$$K_{18} = \frac{\phi_v[\text{H}_2\text{S}]}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_a} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.71$$

Diffusion of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  from liquid to gas phase

$$K_{19} = \frac{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_g}{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_\ell} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.73$$

Homogeneous oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$

A study of the mechanism of this reaction is beyond the scope of this work, and equation 1.7 by Verhulst is accepted in section 2.6.3.1 as describing the oxidation kinetics.

Mechanism 2 implies that  $H^+$ ,  $Fe^{3+}$ ,  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $H_2S$  species are adsorbed, hence by adopting a similar approach as in section 2.3 it may be shown that:-

$$\Phi_v = \Phi_o / (1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{12} [Fe^{3+}] + \frac{[Zn^{2+}]}{K_{17}} + \frac{[H_2S]}{K_{18}}) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.74$$

$$\text{letting } K_{20} = \frac{1}{K_{17}} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.75$$

$$\text{and } K_{21} = \frac{1}{K_{18}} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.76$$

and substituting these into equation 2.74 :-

$$\Phi_v = \Phi_o / (1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{12} [Fe^{3+}] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S]) \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.77$$

2. 6 DERIVATION OF MODELS BASED ON  
MECHANISM 2

2.6.1 Case (i)  $[Fe^{3+}]_o : [H_2SO_4]_o = 0$

2.6.1.1 Model F (based on the assumption that  $H^+$  adsorption represented by equation 2.57 is rate limiting)

The justification for making this assumption is the same as that given in section 2.4.1.1.

The rate equation for the reaction represented by equation 2.57 is:-

$$r_F = k_{11} \phi_v [H^+] - k_{12} [H^+]_a \dots\dots\dots 2.78$$

In a manner similar to that adopted in section 2.4.1.1 equation 2.78 can be expressed in terms of homogeneous phase concentrations as follows:

From equation 2.62 :

$$[H^+]_a = K_{13} [HS^+]_a$$

equation 2.66 :

$$[HS^+]_a = \frac{[Zn^{2+}]_a^{0,5} [H_2S]_a^{0,5}}{K_{15}^{0,5}}$$

equation 2.69 :

$$[Zn^{2+}]_a^{0,5} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}]_o^{0,5}}{K_{17}^{0,5}}$$

and equation 2.71 :

$$[H_2S]_a^{0,5} = \frac{\phi_v^{0,5} [H_2S]_o^{0,5}}{K_{18}^{0,5}}$$

Consecutive substitution into equation 2.78 gives -

$$r_F = k_1 \phi_v [H^+] - \frac{k_{12} K_{13} \phi_v}{K_{15}^{0,5} K_{17}^{0,5} K_{18}^{0,5}} [Zn^{2+}]_o^{0,5} [H_2S]_o^{0,5} \dots\dots\dots 2.79$$



Let 
$$k_{13} = \frac{k_{12} K_{13}}{K_{15}^{0,5} K_{17}^{0,5} K_{18}^{0,5}} \dots\dots\dots 2.80$$

Substitute for  $\phi_v$  and  $k_{12} K_{13} / K_{15}^{0,5} K_{17}^{0,5} K_{18}^{0,5}$  in equation 2.79 by equations 2.77 and 2.80 and rearrange -

$$r_F = \frac{\phi_o (k_{11} [H^+] - k_{13} [Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]^{0,5})}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S])} \dots\dots 2.81$$

The initial rate form of equation 2.81 is -

$$r_{F_o} = \frac{\phi_o k_{11} [H^+]_o}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+]_o + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}]_o + K_{21} [H_2S]_o)} \dots\dots\dots 2.82$$

and at equilibrium the mass action constant is -

$$K_{F_{MA}} = \frac{k_{11}}{k_{13}} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]^{0,5}}{[H^+]} \dots\dots\dots 2.83$$

Note that in the event of  $H^+$ ,  $Zn^{2+}$ , and  $H_2S$  each being only very weakly adsorbed so that  $K_{11}$ ,  $K_{20}$  and  $K_{21}$  are very small, equation 2.81 reduces to -

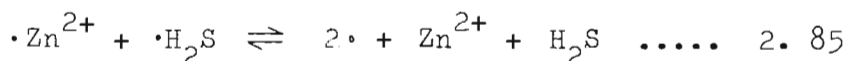
$$r_F = \phi_o (k_{11} [H^+] - k_{13} [Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]^{0,5}) \dots\dots\dots 2.84$$

Also note that equations 2.84 and 2.83 are identical in form to equations 1.1 and 1.2 (which were obtained by Romankiw by regressing on synthetic sphalerite leaching data).

2.6.1.2 Model G (based on the assumption that reaction product desorption is rate limiting)

This assumption is justified by reasoning similar to that discussed in section 2.4.1.2 .

If the  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $H_2S$  species are both strongly adsorbed and desorption of both the  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $H_2S$  is necessary in order for the reaction to proceed, then the reaction describing this rate limiting situation is -



The rate equation describing this reaction is -

$$r_G = k_{14} [Zn^{2+}]_a [H_2S]_a - k_{15} \phi_v^2 [Zn^{2+}] [H_2S] \dots\dots\dots 2.86$$

Equation 2.86 may be expressed in terms of homogeneous phase concentrations as follows :

$$\text{From equation 2.66 : } [Zn^{2+}]_a [H_2S]_a = K_{15} [HS^+]_a^2$$

$$\text{equation 2.62 : } [HS^+]_a = K_{13} [H^+]_a$$

$$\text{and equation 2.58 : } [H^+]_a = K_{11} \phi_v [H^+]$$

Substituting consecutively into equation 2.86 gives -

$$r_G = k_{14} K_{15} K_{13}^2 K_{11}^2 \phi_v^2 [H^+]^2 - k_{15} \phi_v^2 [Zn^{2+}] [H_2S] \dots\dots\dots 2.87$$

$$\text{Let } k_{16} = k_{14} K_{15} K_{13}^2 K_{11}^2 \dots\dots\dots 2.88$$

Substituting for  $\phi_v$  and  $k_{14}$   $K_{15}$   $K_{13}^2$   $K_{11}^2$  in equation 2.87 by equations 2.77 and 2.88 and rearranging gives -

$$r_G = \frac{\phi_o^2 (k_{16} [H^+]^2 - k_{15} [Zn^{2+}] [H_2S])}{(1.0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S])^2} \dots\dots\dots 2.89$$

At equilibrium, the mass action constant in this case is -

$$K_{G\ MA} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_e}{[H^+]^2} \dots\dots\dots 2.90$$

The initial rate form of equation 2.89 is -

$$r_{G_o} = \frac{\phi_o^2 k_{16} [H^+]_o^2}{(1.0 + K_{11} [H^+]_o + K_{21} [Zn^{2+}]_o + K_{22} [H_2S]_o)^2} \dots\dots\dots 2.91$$

2.6.2 Case (ii):  $[Fe^{3+}]_o : [H_2SO_4]_o \cong 1,8$

2.6.2.1 Model H (based on the assumption that  $Fe^{3+}$  and  $H^+$  adsorb competitively and that for large  $[Fe^{3+}]_o : [H_2SO_4]_o$  the  $H^+$  contributes negligibly to the dissolution reaction)

The justification for this assumption is similar to that discussed in section 2.4.2.1 .

Thus if the  $Fe^{3+}$  adsorption reaction described by equation 2.59 is rate limiting, then -

$$r_H = k_{16} \phi_v [Fe^{3+}] - k_{17} [Fe^{3+}]_a \dots\dots\dots 2.92$$

Since the dual site reaction expressed by equation 2.67 is irreversible, equation 2.92 reduces to -

$$r_H = k_{16} \phi_v [Fe^{3+}]_a \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.93$$

It is seen that the rate equations based on both single site and dual site case (ii) mechanisms are identical.

Substitute for  $\phi_v$  in equation 2.93 by equation 2.77 -

$$r_H = \frac{k_{16} \phi_o [Fe^{3+}]}{(1,0 + K_{11}[H^+] + K_{12}[Fe^{3+}] + K_{20}[Zn^{2+}] + K_{21}[H_2S])} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.94$$

Assuming that  $K_{11} \gg K_{12}, K_{20}$  or  $K_{21}$ , that  $K_{11} \gg 1,0$ ; and that  $k_{17} = k_{16}/K_{11}$  results in eqn. 2.94 reducing to

$$r_H = \frac{k_{17} \phi_o [Fe^{3+}]}{[H^+]} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.95$$

2.6.3 Case (iii):  $[Fe^{3+}]_o : [H_2SO_4]_o \leq 0,1$

2.6.3.1 Model I (Homogeneous oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ )

It is proposed that the empirical model developed by Verhulst (1974) and represented by equation 1.7 describes the kinetics of this reaction. Thus -

$$r_I = \frac{d[H_2S]}{dt} = -0,947 \times 10^{14} \exp\left(\frac{-57,72}{RT}\right) \frac{[H_2S]_l^{1,44} [Fe^{3+}]^{1,69}}{[H_2SO_4]^{2,49}} \quad \dots\dots\dots 2.96$$

- 2.6.3.2 Model J (based on the assumption that  $H^+$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  adsorb competitively; that for low  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0$  ratio both the  $H^+$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  contribute significantly to the dissolution; and that  $H_2S$  formed by the  $H^+$  is homogeneously oxidised by  $Fe^{3+}$ )

The justification offered in the preamble of section 2.4.3.2 applies here.

Assume that -

- a) equation 2.81 has an additional term in the denominator for the adsorption of  $Fe^{3+}$ , thus -

$$r_F = \frac{\Phi_0 (k_{11} [H^+] - k_{13} [Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]_\ell^{0,5})}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{12} [Fe^{3+}] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S])} \dots\dots\dots 2.97$$

- b) equations 2.97 and 2.94 represent the  $H^+$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  dissolution reactions occurring in parallel;
- c) equations 2.97 and 2.96 represent the  $H_2S$  formation and oxidation reactions occurring in series.

The overall rate of dissolution for this case is obtained by simultaneously solving the following two differential rate equations :

$$r_{J1} = \frac{d[Zn^{2+}]}{dt} = r_F + r_H \dots\dots\dots 2.98$$

$$r_{J2} = \frac{d[H_2S]_\ell}{dt} = r_F - r_I \dots\dots\dots 2.99$$

where  $r_F$ ,  $r_H$  and  $r_I$  are described by equations

2.97, 2.94 and 2.96 respectively.

2.7 SUMMARY OF MODELS DERIVED FOR  
MECHANISMS 1 AND 2

Table 2.2 summarises the case (i) models. The initial rate forms for each of the equations are obtained by setting the negative terms in the numerators equal to zero.

Table 2.3 summarises the case (ii) models.

Table 2.4 summarises the case (iii) models.



Mechanism	Model	Rate Control	Rate Equation	Mass Action Constant
1	A	H <sup>+</sup> adsorption	$r_A = \frac{\phi_0}{(1,0 + K_1 [H^+] + K_8 [Zn^{2+}])} (k_1 [H^+] - k_3 \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{[H^+]})$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.35</p>	$K_{A MA} = \frac{k_1}{k_3} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{[H^+]^2}$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.37</p>
1	B	Zn <sup>2+</sup> desorption	$r_B = \frac{\phi_0}{(1,0 + K_1 [H^+] + K_8 [Zn^{2+}])} (k_6 \frac{[H^+]^2}{[H_2S]_l} - k_5 [Zn^{2+}])$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.42</p>	$K_{B MA} = \frac{k_6}{k_5} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{[H^+]^2}$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.44</p>
2	F	H <sup>+</sup> adsorption	$r_F = \frac{\phi_0 (k_{11} [H^+] - k_{13} [Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]_l^{0,5})}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S]_l)}$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.81</p>	$K_{F MA} = \frac{k_{11}}{k_{13}} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]_l^{0,5}}{[H^+]}$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.83</p>
2	G	Zn <sup>2+</sup> ; H <sub>2</sub> S desorption	$r_G = \frac{\phi_0^2 (k_{16} [H^+]^2 - k_{15} [Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l)}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S]_l)^2}$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.89</p>	$K_{G MA} = \frac{k_{16}}{k_{15}} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}] [H_2S]_l}{[H^+]^2}$ <p style="text-align: right;">..... 2.90</p>

T A B L E 2. 2

SUMMARY OF CASE (i) (Fe<sup>3+</sup>); [H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>] = 0 MODELS FOR PROPOSED

MECHANISMS 1 AND 2

Mechanism	Model	Rate Equation
1	C	$r_C = k_8 \phi_o \frac{[Fe^{3+}]}{[H^+]} \dots\dots\dots 2.52$
2	H	$r_H = k_{17} \phi_o \frac{[Fe^{3+}]}{[H^+]} \dots\dots\dots 2.95$

TABLE 2.3      SUMMARY OF CASE (ii) ( $[Fe^{3+}]_o : [H_2SO_4]_o \cong 1,8$ )  
MODELS FOR PROPOSED MECHANISMS 1 AND 2

Mechanism	Model	Rate Equation
1	E	$r_{E1} = \frac{\phi_0 (k_7 [Fe^{3+}] + (k_1 [H^+] - k_3 \frac{[Zn^{2+}][H_2S]_l}{[H^+]})}{(1,0 + K_1 [H^+] + K_2 [Fe^{3+}] + K_8 [Zn^{2+}])} \dots\dots\dots 2.55$
		$r_{E2} = \frac{\phi_0 (k_1 [H^+] - k_3 \frac{[Zn^{2+}][H_2S]_l}{[H^+]})}{(1,0 + K_1 [H^+] + K_2 [Fe^{3+}] + K_8 [Zn^{2+}])}$ $- 0,947 \times 10^{14} \exp\left(\frac{-67,72}{RT}\right) \frac{[H_2S]_l^{1,44} [Fe^{3+}]^{1,69}}{[H_2SO_4]^{2,49}} \dots\dots\dots 2.56$
2	J	$r_{J1} = \frac{\phi_0 (k_{16} [Fe^{3+}] + (k_{11} [H^+] - k_{13} [Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]_l^{0,5}))}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{12} [Fe^{3+}] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S]_l)} \dots\dots\dots 2.98$
		$r_{J2} = \frac{\phi_0 (k_{11} [H^+] - k_{13} [Zn^{2+}]^{0,5} [H_2S]_l^{0,5})}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{12} [Fe^{3+}] + K_{20} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{21} [H_2S]_l)}$ $- 0,947 \times 10^{14} \exp\left(\frac{-67,72}{RT}\right) \frac{[H_2S]_l^{1,44} [Fe^{3+}]^{1,69}}{[H_2SO_4]^{2,49}} \dots\dots\dots 2.99$

T A B L E 2.4      SUMMARY OF CASE (iii)  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \leq 0,1$  MODELS FOR PROPOSED MECHANISMS 1 & 2

CHAPTER 3EXPERIMENTAL TESTING OF THE  
INITIAL RATE FORM OF CASE (i) AND (ii)  
MODELS PROPOSED IN CHAPTER 2Introduction

In this chapter the case (i) and case (ii) models developed for mechanisms 1 and 2 are tested quantitatively under initial rate conditions. Attempts are made to ascribe values to the rate and adsorption equilibrium constants for those models which do fit the data.

In chapter 4 the overall forms of the case (i) and (ii) models selected in this chapter are tested using overall leaching rate data.

In chapter 5 equation 1.7 for the homogeneous oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$  is tested and modified before qualitatively testing the case (iii) models using overall leaching data.

In chapter 6 (section 6.1) Scanning electron microscope photographs of unleached and leached sphalerite particles; and optical microscope photographs of etched and unetched sphalerite particles are presented

In section 3.1 the four sphalerites, the various forms in which they were used and their identifying abbreviations used in this thesis, are described.

In Appendix A the experimental apparatus is described.

In Appendix B experimental and sphalerite pre-treatment procedures are described.

In Appendix C the chemicals used in the leaching experiments are described.

In Appendix D methods of chemical analysis are given.

In Appendix E empirical expressions relating the liquid phase  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $H_2S$  concentrations to the gas phase  $H_2S$  partial pressure are determined by regressing on experimental results.

In Appendix F aspects relating to the topography of the different sphalerites are presented. In particular the B.E.T. surface areas for the different sphalerites (before and after leaching) are reported, and mathematical functions describing the change in area during leaching are derived.

In Appendix G data analysis procedures, (including that for determining the  $Zn^{2+}$  leaching rate from monitored  $H_2S$  partial pressure data) are discussed.

In Appendix H raw case (i) data ( $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 0,0$ ) is presented graphically by plotting the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves.

In Appendix I all case (i) experimental leaching results are fully reported in tabular form.

In Appendix J all case (ii) experimental leaching results (  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \geq 1,8$  ) are tabulated.

In Appendixes K and L all case (iii) experimental results (i.e.  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  oxidations of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ; and leaching with  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \leq 0,1$ ) are tabulated.

### 3. 1 SPHALERITES USED IN THIS STUDY

#### 3. 1. 1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

One synthetic and three natural sphalerites were used in this investigation. The abbreviations used throughout this thesis to designate these sphalerites are shown below in capital letters between brackets, and are summarised in Table 3. 1 .

The chemical composition of each of the sphalerites are summarised in Table 3. 2 .

The following different sphalerites were used :

#### (i) Synthetic high grade sphalerite

A precipitated synthetic laboratory reagent grade sphalerite manufactured by the British Drug House Company -  
(Abbreviation: BDH.)

#### (ii) High grade natural sphalerite

A comparatively pure natural sphalerite from Oklohoma, U.S.A. and acquired in lump form from Wards Natural Science Establishment, Inc., New York, U.S.A. . Primary size reduction of the lumps was effected in two ways :



SPHALERITE ABBREVIATION	DESCRIPTION
BDH	Synthetic sphalerite marketed by the <u>British Drug House</u> Company.
WBM	<u>W</u> ard's <u>b</u> all <u>m</u> illed high grade natural sphalerite.
WVM *	<u>W</u> ard's <u>v</u> ibratory <u>m</u> illed high grade natural sphalerite.
VMWBM *	<u>V</u> ibratory <u>m</u> illed WBM sphalerite.
ZCR	Moderately impure flotation concentrate acquired from <u>ZINCOR</u> .
VMZCR	<u>V</u> ibratory <u>m</u> illed ZCR sphalerite.
PR	Very impure flotation concentrate acquired from <u>Prieska</u> .
VMPR	<u>V</u> ibratory <u>m</u> illed PR sphalerite

\* The WVM sphalerite was used in a relatively coarse granular form (eg. -75,0 + 63,0 size fraction) whilst the VMWVM sphalerite was used in a very fine form.

T A B L E 3. 1

SUMMARY OF ABBREVIATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SPHALERITES  
USED IN THIS THESIS

Sphalerite abbreviation	Zn %	Sulphide Sulphur %	Fe %	Cu	Pb	Cd	Ni ppm	Mg	Ca	Co ppm
ZCR * VMZCR *	61,5	31,5	7,25	155,0ppm	1,51%	0,12%	409,0	0,36%	0,63 %	237,0
PR * VMPR *	55,8	32,1	10,74	3,53%	850,0ppm	0,13%	498,0	0,17%	0,1 %	160,0
WBM * VMWBM *	66,5	32,2	0,45	382,0ppm	900,0ppm	0,48%	395,0	230,0ppm	350,0ppm	229,0
BDH *	65,4	31,0	0,12	129,0ppm	557,0ppm	83,0ppm	408,0	400,0ppm	266,0ppm	237,0

53

\* These abbreviations described in the text and summarised in Table 3.1

T A B L E 3. 2

AVERAGE CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF SPHALERITES USED IN THIS STUDY

- a) Wet ball milling in a laboratory mill. The milled material was periodically wet screened through a 125,0 $\mu$  screen, the plus fraction being returned for further milling. (Abbreviation: WBM)
- b) Dry vibratory milling in a Siebtechnik laboratory attrition mill. The milled material was periodically dry screened through a 125,0 $\mu$  screen, the plus fraction being returned for further milling. (Abbreviation: WVM)

(iii) Moderately impure sphalerite flotation concentrate

A moderately impure milled flotation concentrate acquired from Zincor of South Africa. The geographical origin of this material is unknown to the author. (Abbreviation: ZCR)

(iv) Highly impure sphalerite flotation concentrate

An impure milled flotation concentrate was acquired from the Prieska mine in the Cape Province of South Africa. (Abbreviation: PR)

In addition to leaching the natural sphalerites in their granular form, fully pretreated acid washed granular samples of each were extensively vibratory milled. (Abbreviations: VMWBM, VMZCR and VMPR) The surface area of these sphalerites were increased as a result of the vibratory milling from typically

100,0 m<sup>2</sup>/kg to say, 3 000,0 m<sup>2</sup>/kg.

It was further found that topographically induced differences in the leaching characteristics of the granular sphalerites, were largely eliminated by the extensive vibratory milling. The large increase in dissolution rates resulting from the large specific surface area exposed, permitted comparative experiments using each of the sphalerites to be conducted much more rapidly, with less sphaleritic material being required per run.

### 3.1.2 MINERALOGICAL PROPERTIES OF THE WBM, ZCR AND PR SPHALERITES

Mounted, polished sphalerite particles were inspected using a reflecting optical microscope.

The WBM particles were observed to consist of essentially pure sphalerite. No obvious distinctive crystallographic or mineralogical features were observed. Upon etching with concentrated sulphuric acid for different time periods, dissolution appeared to mostly take place evenly over the entire surface. Some evidence of leaching in preferential directions was however observed.

The ZCR sphalerite particles were observed to contain what appeared to be magnetite intergrowths, and pyrite appeared also to be present as separate particles. Etching with concentrated sulphuric acid revealed zonal structuring with fine sub-grain polycrystalline material at different orientations.

Etching appeared to occur preferentially along twinning zones and grain boundaries.

Figure 6.18 shows a photograph of an etched ZCR particle.

The PR sphalerite was mineralogically far more complex and interesting than the WBM and ZCR sphalerites. Anhaeusser and Lenthall (1970) reported a detailed petrographic and mineragraphic study of PR sphalerite obtained from the same source as that used by the author. Only the more obvious features observed by the author are reported here.

Three generations of sphalerite were observed. The copper impurity existed predominantly as exsolved chalcopyrite, whilst the iron impurity was present in the sphalerite lattice, as well as in the chalcopyrite.

Iron free sphalerite was observed to exist immediately adjacent to the chalcopyrite, the iron concentration increasing with distance away from the chalcopyrite. Upon etching, dissolution appeared to take place, preferentially in the zones adjacent to the chalcopyrite.

Figure 6.19 shows this phenomena, the bright yellow grains being the chalcopyrite. Fine sub-grain boundaries, twinning and other crystallographic zones of weakness were observed along which etching appeared to take place preferentially.



### 3. 2 EXPERIMENTAL TESTING OF CASE (i) MODELS

In this section experimental initial rate data is used to discriminate between models derived for mechanisms 1 and 2 under case (i) conditions - (i.e.  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 = 0,0$ ).

Tables 3.3 to 3.6 summarise the conditions of the experiments performed to determine the effects of stirrer speed, initial sphalerite area,  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  concentration, temperature, initial zinc concentration, and initial  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_\ell$  concentration. Also shown on tables 3.3 to 3.6 are the experimental and fitted initial rates, along with initial rates calculated using the final expressions developed in this section.

#### 3. 2. 1 EFFECT OF AGITATION

Figures H1a to H1c plot  $\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  vs t rate curves for leaching VMWBM, VMPR and BDH sphalerites with stirrer speeds ranging from 400,0 rpm to 1500,0 rpm. No significant effect of agitation is observed. Since all other experiments were conducted at stirrer speeds greater than 800,0 rpm assumption (iv) made in section 2.2 is justified. This is assumed to be true also in the case of the VMZCR sphalerite.

#### 3. 2. 2 EFFECT OF INITIAL AREA $\phi_0$

An examination of the models summarised on table 2.2 reveals that models A, B and F predict 1st order dependency, and model G a 2nd order dependency of the initial rate on area. Figures



Table No (-)	Initial Mass x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg)	Temp. (K)	Stirrer Speed (rpm)	[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	[H <sub>2</sub> S] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>exp</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>fit</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>calc</sub> * x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )
I 1	5,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	0	5,57	5,73	4,154
I 2	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	0	7,46	8,33	8,31
I 3	20,0	318,0	800,0	1,0	0	0	13,70	18,1	16,62
I 4	20,0	298,0	800,0	1,0	0	0	4,86	6,68	6,10
I 5	20,0	338,0	800,0	1,0	0	0	25,30	55,60	40,19
I 6	20,0	318,0	1 150,0	1,0	0	0	21,70	22,60	16,62
I 7	10,0	318,0	1 500,0	1,0	0	0	11,80	9,29	8,308
I 8	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	0,5	0	0	4,94	4,61	4,941
I 9	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	2,0	0	0	12,60	14,20	12,60
I 10	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	15,0	0	5,28	5,30	6,119
I 11	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	25,1	0	5,56	5,60	4,843
I 12	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	53,9	0	3,68	3,57	3,635
I 13	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	0,5	0	5,0	3,89	6,47	4,941
I 14	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	11,9	9,19	8,18	8,308
I 15	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	2,0	0	20,0	15,30	14,00	12,60

\* Calculated using equation 3.41 with parameter values shown on table 3.10

T A B L E 3.3      SUMMARY OF INITIAL CONDITIONS AND RESULTS FOR EXPERIMENTAL LEACHING RUNS  
USING VMWBM SPHALERITE      (ALL EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS TABULATED IN APPENDIX I)

([Fe<sup>3+</sup>]<sub>0</sub> : [H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 0.0)

Table No (-)	Initial Mass x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg)	Temp. (K)	Stirrer Speed (rpm)	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> l <sub>0</sub> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	[H <sub>2</sub> S] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>exp</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>fit</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>calc</sub> * x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )
I 16	5,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	0	3,28	3,19	3,391
I 17	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	0	6,84	4,87	6,783
I 18	20,0	318,0	800,0	1,0	0	0	13,60	28,90	13,57
I 19	20,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	0	9,50	12,60	13,57
I 20	20,0	298,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	0	4,66	4,61	4,035
I 21	20,0	338,0	800,0	1,0	0	0	36,90	54,90	39,52
I 22	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	0,5	0	0	4,20	4,17	4,169
I 23	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	2,0	0	0	10,10	9,88	9,879
I 24	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	14,343	0	5,457	4,402	4,829
I 25	10,0	318,0	1 000,0	1,0	0	10,96	5,96	N.D.	6,783

\* Calculated using equation 3.41 with parameter values shown on table 3.10

T A B L E 3. 4 SUMMARY OF INITIAL CONDITIONS AND RESULTS FOR EXPERIMENTAL LEACHING RUNS  
USING VMZCR SPHALERITE (ALL EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS TABULATED IN APPENDIX I)

$$\underline{([Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 = 0,0)}$$

Table No (-)	Initial Mass x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg)	Temp. (K)	Stirrer Speed (rpm)	[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	[H <sub>2</sub> S] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>o</sub> ) <sub>exp</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>o</sub> ) <sub>fit</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>o</sub> ) <sub>calc</sub> <sup>⊕</sup> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/ min m <sup>3</sup> )
I 26	5,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	0,614	0,69	0,657
I 27	10,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	2,95	2,93	2,628
I 28	20,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	8,71	7,16	10,51
I 29	20,0	298,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	2,45	1,81	3,34
I 30	20,0	338,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	14,80	22,10	28,87
I 31	20,0	318,0	1500,0	1,0	0	0	11,90	7,74	10,51
I 32	10,0	318,0	1000,0	0,5	0	0	0,689	0,551	0,657
I 33	10,0	318,0	1000,0	2,0	0	0	2,56*	2,85*	10,51
I 34	10,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	14,237	0	0,483	0,471	0,472
I 35	10,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	0	17,767	1,07	N.D.	0,969

\* Values far too low owing to some unexplained error

⊕ Calculated using equation 3.41 with parameter values shown on table 3.10

T A B L E 3. 5

SUMMARY OF INITIAL CONDITIONS AND RESULTS FOR EXPERIMENTAL LEACHING RUNS  
USING VMPR SPHALERITE (ALL EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS TABULATED IN APPENDIX I)

([Fe<sup>3+</sup>]<sub>0</sub> : [H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>]<sub>0</sub> = 0,0)

Table No (-)	Initial Mass x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg)	Temp. (K)	Stirrer Speed (rpm)	[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[H <sub>2</sub> S] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>exp</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/min m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>fit</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/min m <sup>3</sup> )	(r <sub>0</sub> ) <sub>calc</sub> * x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/min m <sup>3</sup> )
I 36	4,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	3,97	4,06	4,723
I 37	10,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	12,00	11,20	11,80
I 38	10,0	298,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	3,42	2,99	4,257
I 39	10,0	338,0	1000,0	1,0	0	0	21,80	21,30	29,03
I 40	5,0	318,0	1000,0	0,5	0	0	2,52	2,24	2,36
I 41	4,0	318,0	1000,0	2,0	0	0	10,8	10,5	9,45
I 42	4,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	14,24	0	3,34	4,34	4,72
I 43	4,0	318,0	1000,0	1,0	0	10,85	4,39	5,17	4,72
I 45	4,0	298,0	1000,0	1,04	0	0	1,78	1,33	1,71
I 46	4,0	298,0	1000,0	1,04	0	0	1,85	1,56	1,71
I 47	4,0	298,0	400,0	1,04	0	0	1,36	1,12	1,71
I 48	4,0	298,0	700,0	1,04	0	0	1,79	1,48	1,71
I 49	4,0	298,0	1000,0	1,04	0	0	1,74	1,42	1,71
I 50	8,0	298,0	1000,0	1,04	0	0	3,24	2,40	3,43
I 51	8,0	298,0	1000,0	1,04	0	0	2,78	2,35	3,43
I 52	6,0	298,0	1000,0	1,04	0	0	2,70	2,17	2,57
I 53	2,0	298,0	1000,0	1,04	0	0	1,04	0,824	0,86
I 54	4,0	298,0	1000,0	0,513	0	0	0,871	0,670	0,88
I 55	4,0	298,0	1000,0	0,25	0	0	0,566	0,412	0,429
I 56	4,0	298,0	1000,0	1,95	0	0	3,26	2,71	3,345

\* Calculated using equation 3.41 with parameter values shown on table 3.10

T A B L E 3.6

SUMMARY OF INITIAL CONDITIONS AND RESULTS FOR EXPERIMENTAL LEACHING RUNS USING BDH SPHALERITE (ALL EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS TABULATED IN APPENDIX I)

$$([Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 = 0.0).$$

Results on tables I 45 to I 56 were performed by H. DIJS on the author's apparatus and permission was granted for the author to use the data.



3.1 and 3.2 plot  $(r_o)_{exp}$  and  $(r_o)_{fit}$  versus  $\phi_o$  for experiments in which different initial masses of sphalerite were leached under similar conditions.

The VMWBM, VMZCR and BDH sphalerites each demonstrate 1st order dependency, and the VMPR a 2nd order dependency of  $r_o$  on  $\phi_o$ .

The VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerite data superimpose and scatter closely about the dashed best fit line on figure 3.1 represented by the following equation:

$$r_o = 2,5 \times 10^{-4} \phi_o \quad \dots\dots\dots 3.1$$

The BDH sphalerite  $(r_o)_{exp}$  data at 3,8,0K and 298,0K scatter around the best fit lines represented by the equations:

$$r_o = 1,64 \times 10^{-4} \phi_o \text{ (at 318,0K) } \dots\dots 3.2$$

$$r_o = 0,55 \times 10^{-4} \phi_o \text{ (at 298,0K) } \dots\dots 3.3$$

The VMPR sphalerite  $(r_o)_{exp}$  data scatters around the best fit line represented by the equation:

$$r_o = 3,8 \times 10^{-6} \phi_o^2 \quad \dots\dots\dots 3.4$$

The VMWBM and the VMZCR sphalerites differ greatly in terms of impurity content, yet apparently leach identically. The BDH sphalerite appears to leach at a much lower initial rate per given area. It is possible that the proportion of BET measured area consisting of active sites (represented by  $K_\phi$  in equation 2.1) for the natural VMWBM and VMZCR

----- Calculated by eqn. 3.1

<u>conditions</u>	TEMP.	(K)	318,0
	[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ]	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
	STIRRER	(rpm)	1000,0

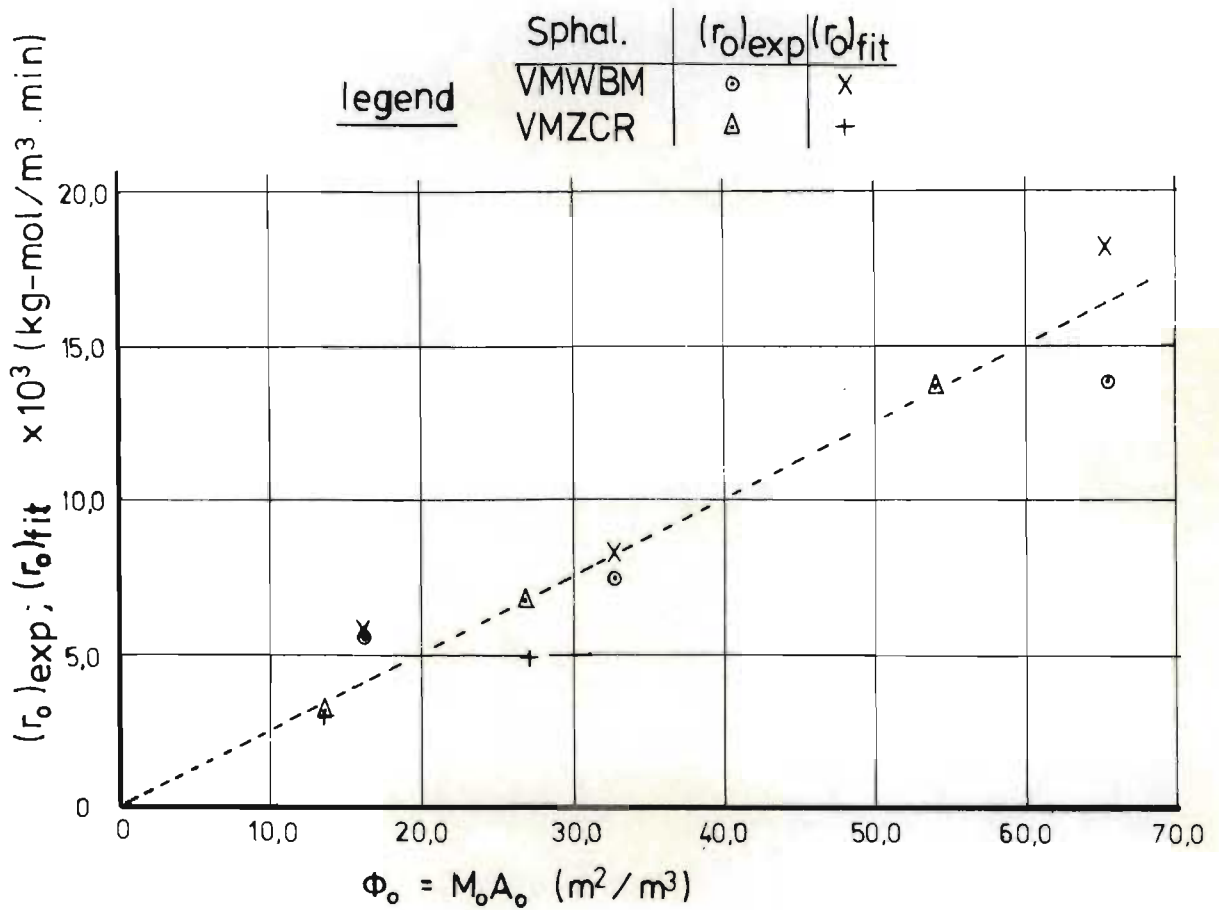


Figure 3.1 Initial rate versus total initial area for VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites.



- a Calculated by eqn. 3.2
- b Calculated by eqn. 3.3
- c Calculated by eqn. 3.4

conditions	[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ]	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
	STIRRER	(rpm)	1000,0

legend	Sphal.	(r <sub>o</sub> ) <sub>exp</sub>	(r <sub>o</sub> ) <sub>fit</sub>	TEMP.(K)
	VMPR	○	X	318,0
	BDH	▲	Y	318,0
	BDH	⊠	I	298,0

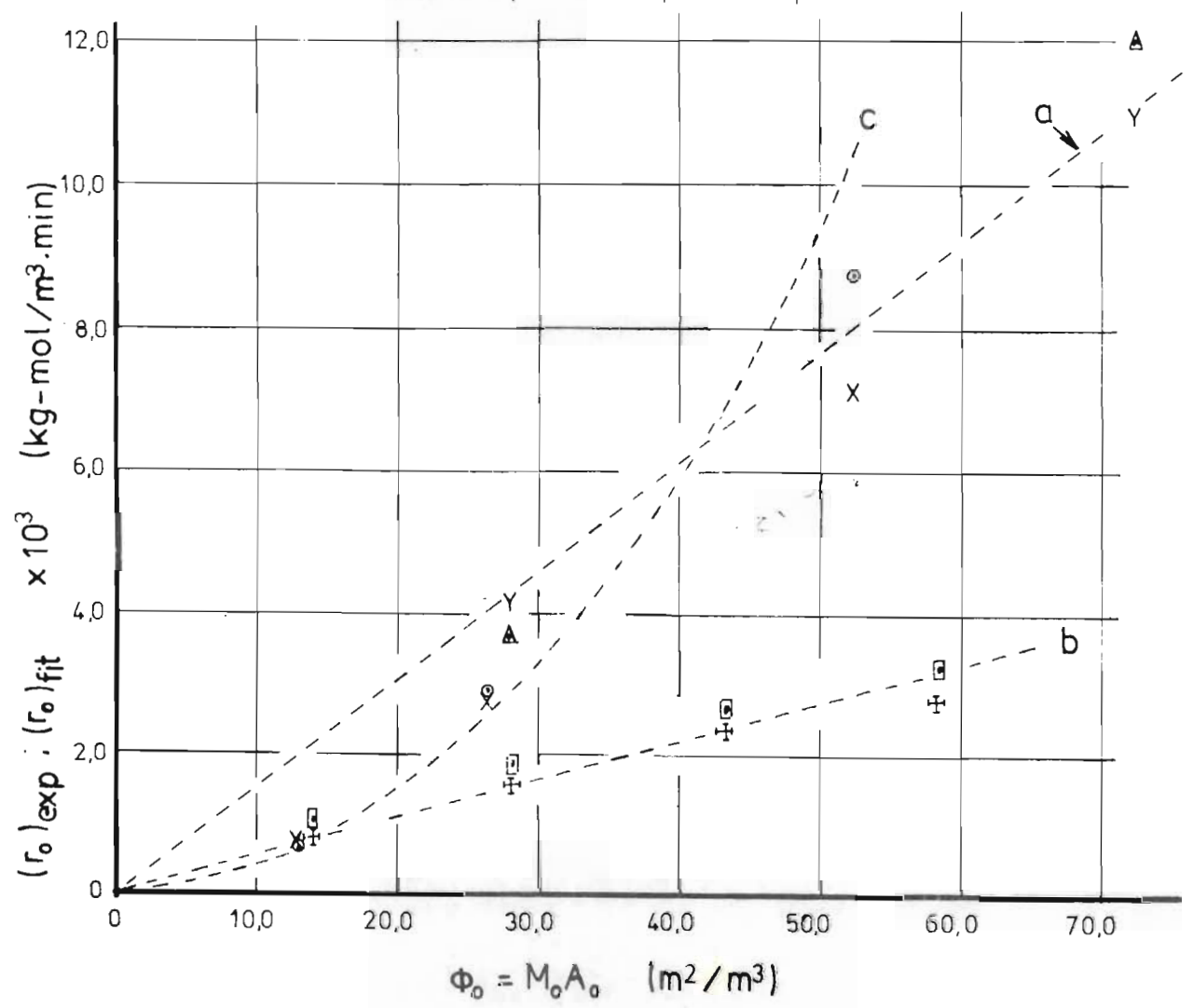


Figure 3.2 Initial rate versus total initial area for the VMPR and BDH sphalerites.

sphalerites is significantly higher than for the BDH sphalerite.

If it is assumed that  $K_{\phi} = 1,0$  (in equation 2.1) for the VMWBM and the VMZCR sphalerites, then a value of  $K_{\phi} = 0,61$  (i.e.  $\frac{1,53 \times 10^{-4}}{2,5 \times 10^{-4}}$ ) will permit the initial rates of all three sphalerites (at  $T = 318,0\text{K}$  and  $[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 = 1,0 \text{ kg-mol/m}^3$ ) to be described by the following equation :

$$r_0 = 2,5 \times 10^{-4} \frac{\phi_0}{K_{\phi}} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3.5$$

where  $\phi_0 = K_{\phi} M_0 A_0$  (equation 2.1)  
 $K_{\phi} = 1,0$  for VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites,  
 and  $K_{\phi} = 0,61$  for the BDH sphalerite.

Although these results do not discriminate between models A, B and F they do justify having assumed  $\text{H}^+$  adsorption as being the rate limiting step in developing these models. By comparing the results on figures 3.1 and 3.2 it is evident that the initial rate dependency of VMPR sphalerite is completely different to that for the two natural and the synthetic sphalerite. In fact the results for the VMPR sphalerite are in agreement with the behaviour predicted by model G for which product desorption is assumed rate limiting.

### 3.2.3 EFFECT OF INITIAL $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ CONCENTRATION

An examination of the models summarised on table 2.2 reveals that models A and F predict a 1st order dependency and models B and G a 2nd order dependency of the initial leaching rates on  $[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0$ .

With no  $Zn^{2+}$  or  $H_2S$  initially present the models may be represented as follows:

$$\text{Model A: } r_o^* = \frac{k_1 [H^+]_o}{(1,0 + K_1 [H^+]_o)} \dots\dots\dots 3.6$$

$$\text{Model B: } r_o^* = \frac{k_6 [H^+]_o^2}{(1,0 + K_1 [H^+]_o) [H_2S]_{\ell o}} \dots\dots\dots 3.7$$

$$\text{Model F: } r_o^* = \frac{k_{11} [H^+]_o}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+]_o)} \dots\dots\dots 3.8$$

$$\text{Model G: } r_o^\oplus = \frac{k_{16} [H^+]_o^2}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+]_o)^2} \dots\dots\dots 3.9$$

$$\text{where } r_o^* = \frac{r_o}{\Phi_o} \text{ for models A, B \& F} \dots\dots\dots 3.10$$

$$\text{and } r_o^\oplus = \frac{r_o}{\Phi_o^2} \text{ for model G} \dots\dots\dots 3.11$$

Figure 3.3 plots  $(r_o^*)_{\text{exp}}$  and  $(r_o^*)_{\text{fit}}$  for the VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites. A definite non-linearity is evident.

Equation 3.6 and 3.8 each have two unknowns,  $k_1$  or  $k_{11}$  and  $K_1$  or  $K_{11}$ . Two equations were set up for each set of data and solved for values of the unknown constants. Curve 'a' on figure 3.3 is described by the following equation for the VMWBM sphalerite:

$$r_o^* = \frac{3,726 \times 10^{-4} [H^+]}{(1,0 + 0,4674 [H^+])} \dots\dots\dots 3.12$$

Curve b on fig 3.3 is described by the following equation for the VMZCR sphalerite:

$$r_o^* = \frac{3,996 \times 10^{-4} [H^+]}{(1,0 + 0,5954 [H^+])} \dots\dots\dots 3.13$$

Note that for  $H^+ = 1,0$ , the solution for equation

----- a Calculated by eqn. 3.12  
 ----- b Calculated by eqn. 3.13

	TEMP.	(K)	318,0
conditions	MASS	(kg)	0,010
	STIRRER	(rpm)	1000,0

	Sphal.	$(r_o)_{exp}$	$(r_o)_{fit}$	$A_o$ (m <sup>2</sup> /kg)
legend	VMWBM	○	x	3.272
	VMZCR	△	+	2.708

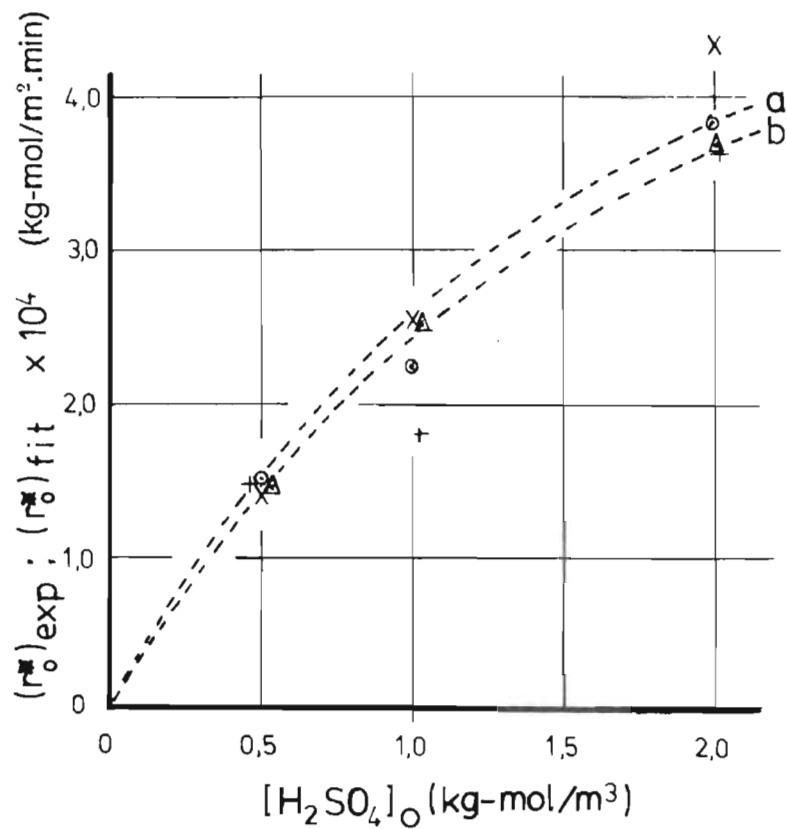


Figure 3.3 Initial specific rate versus initial  $H_2SO_4$  concentration for the VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites.

3. 12 is -

$$r_o^* = 2,539 \times 10^{-4} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3. 14$$

and for equation 3. 13 is -

$$r_o^* = 2,505 \times 10^{-4} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3. 15$$

These values agree very well with the value of  $r_o/\phi_o = 2,5 \times 10^{-4}$  given by equation 3. 5 .

Figure 3.4 plots  $(r_o^*)_{\text{exp}}$  and  $(r_o^*)_{\text{fit}}$  for the BDH sphalerite leaching at 318,0K and 298,0K. A linear dependence of  $r_o^*$  on  $[H^+]_o$  is observed. According to models A or F this could suggest that the adsorption of  $H^+$  at active synthetic sites takes place very weakly so that the adsorption constants  $K_1$  or  $K_{11}$  (in equations 3.6 and 3.8) are essentially zero.

Using the values of  $r_o/\phi_o$  from equations 3.2 and 3.3 for BDH sphalerites leaching at 318,0K and 298,0K (for  $[H^+] = 1,0$ ), and letting the  $H^+$  adsorption constants  $K_1$  and  $K_{11}$  be zero, gives the following reduced forms of equations 3.6 and 3.8 :

$$r_o^* = 1,64 \times 10^{-4} [H^+] \quad (T = 318,0K) \quad \dots\dots\dots 3. 16$$

$$\text{and } r_o^* = 0,55 \times 10^{-4} [H^+] \quad (T = 298,0K) \quad \dots\dots\dots 3. 17$$

Solutions to these equations are represented on figure 3.4 by lines 'a' and 'b' respectively.

a Calculated by eqn. 3.16

-----

b Calculated by eqn. 3.17

conditions	Mass	(kg)	0,004
	Agitation	(rpm)	1 000,0

legend		Data	T (K)
○	$(r_o^*)_{exp}$		318,0
x	$(r_o^*)_{expfit}$		318,0
□	$(r_o^*)_{exp}$		298,0
+	$(r_o^*)_{expfit}$		298,0

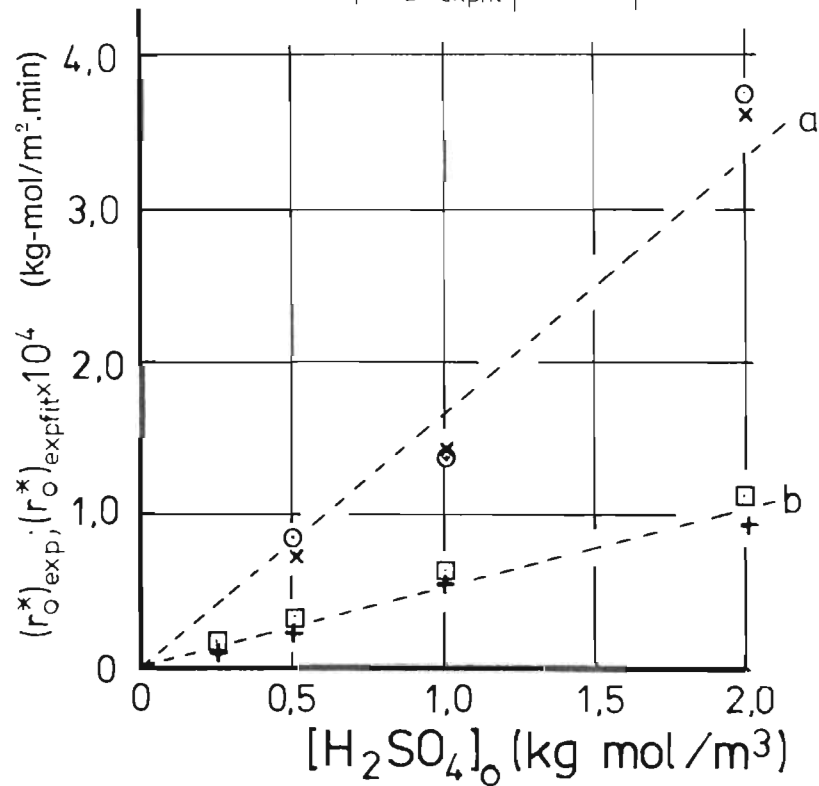


Figure 3.4 Initial specific rate versus initial H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> concentration for the BDH sphalerite.



Figure 3.5 plots  $r_o^\ominus$  versus  $[H^+]_o$  for the VMPR sphalerite. The value at  $[H^+]_o = 2,0$  is lower than the well established value at  $[H^+]_o = 1,0$ . This is probably due to an abnormal unidentified error, (possibly the graph paper recording the  $P_{H_2S}$  with time was advancing faster than was logged) and hence this point has been neglected. Letting  $r_o/\phi_o^2 = 3,8 \times 10^{-6}$  (from equation 3.4) and assuming that in the situation of reaction products being strongly adsorbed, that the adsorption of  $H^+$  has an insignificant effect on the kinetics (i.e. assume  $K_{11} = 0,0$  in equation 3.9), permits equation 3.9 for model G to reduce to -

$$r_o^\ominus = 3,8 \times 10^{-6} [H^+]_o^2 \quad \dots\dots\dots 3.18$$

The dashed curve on figure 3.5 represents the solution to equation 3.18 and is observed to fit through the origin and two data points reasonably well.

It is apparant that none of the sphalerites exhibit 1st order and 2nd order dependencies of the initial rate on the initial area and  $[H^+]_o$  respectively, as predicted by model B. Hence this model and mechanism 1 is considered invalid and will be subsequently disregarded. Additional reasons for rejecting mechanism 1 in favour of mechanism 2 are discussed in section 3.2.8.

#### 3.2.4 EFFECT OF INITIAL $Zn^{2+}$ CONCENTRATION ON INITIAL RATE

According to the initial rate components of models F and G, if  $Zn^{2+}$  ions are sufficiently

----- Calculated by eqn. 3.18

conditions	Temp	(K)	318.0
	Mass	(kg)	0.01
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000.0

legend	⊙	$(r_o^\ominus)_{exp}$
	x	$(r_o^\ominus)_{fit}$

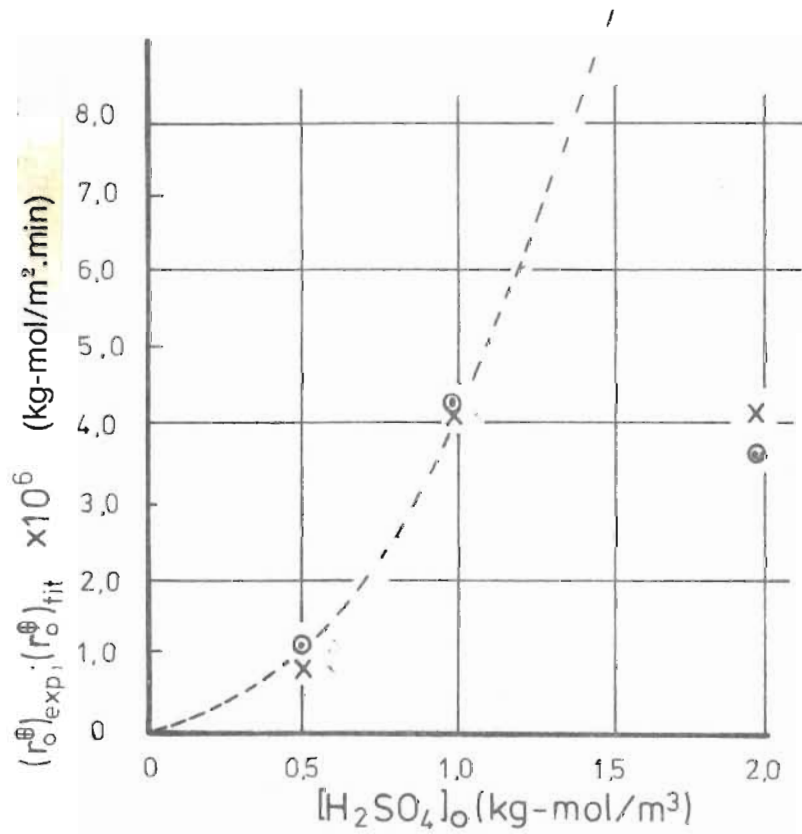


Figure 3.5 Initial specific rate versus initial  $H_2SO_4$  concentration for VMPR sphalerite.

strongly adsorbed their presence should suppress the initial dissolution rate.

Figure 3.6 plots  $[r_o^*]$  versus  $[Zn^{2+}]_o$  for the VMWBM, VMZCR and BDH sphalerites. The VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerite initial rates are observed to have been significantly suppressed.

Using the values of constants given in equations 3.12 and 3.13 (for the VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites) model F take the following forms :

For VMWBM sphalerite -

$$r_o^* = \frac{3,726 \times 10^{-4} [H^+]_o}{(1,0 + 0,4674 [H^+]_o + K_8 [Zn^{2+}]_o)} \dots\dots\dots 3. 19$$

and for VMZCR sphalerite -

$$r_o^* = \frac{3,996 \times 10^{-4} [H^+]_o}{(1,0 + 0,5954 [H^+]_o + K_8 [Zn^{2+}]_o)} \dots\dots\dots 3. 20$$

Figure 3.6 plots the solutions to equations 3.19 and 3.20 for  $K_8 = 30,0; 35,0; 45,0; 50,0$  and  $60,0$  respectively. All the points for the VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites fall within the curves for  $K_8 = 30$  and  $K_8 = 60$ . A value  $K_8 = 35,0$  and  $K_8 = 45,0$  is accepted here as representing the best average fit through the VMWBM and the VMZCR data points respectively. Consequently equations 3.19 and 3.20 take the following forms :

-----  
 Calculated by eqns. 3.19 and 3.20  
 with  $K_8$  values as shown below.

conditions	TEMP,	(K)	318,0	
	[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ]	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0	
	STIRRER	(rpm)	1000,0	
legend	Sphal.	(r <sub>o</sub> ) <sub>exp</sub>	(r <sub>o</sub> ) <sub>fit</sub>	Mass (kg)
	VMWBM	⊙	x	0,010
	VMZCR	△		0,010
	BDH	⊕	⊗	0,004

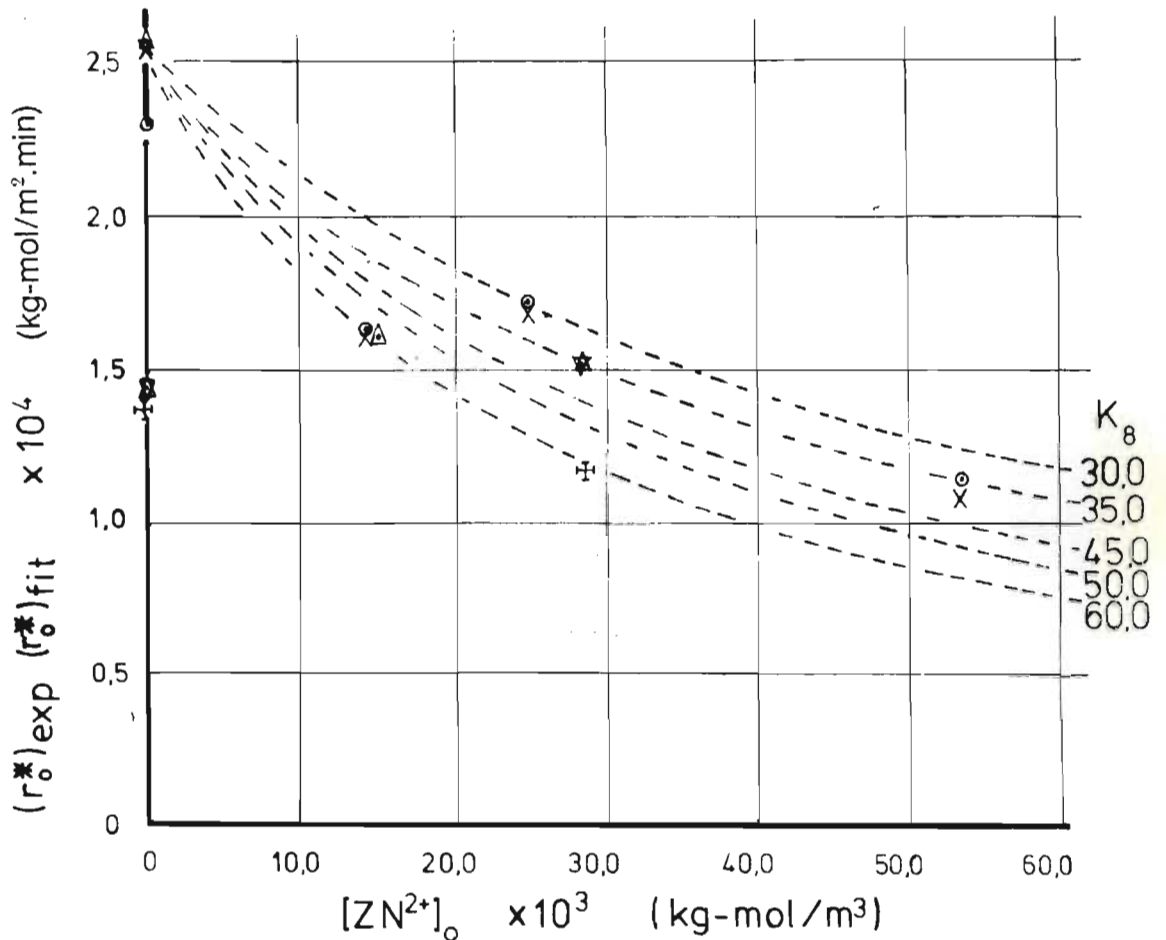


Figure 3.6 Initial specific rate versus initial zinc ion concentration for the VMWBM, VMZCR and BDH sphalerites.

For VMWBM sphalerite -

$$r_o^* = \frac{3,726 \times 10^{-4} [H^+]_o}{(1,0 + 0,4674 [H^+]_o + 35,0 [Zn^{2+}]_o)} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3. 21$$

and for VMZCR sphalerite -

$$r_o^* = \frac{3,996 \times 10^{-4} [H^+]_o}{(1,0 + 0,5954 [H^+]_o + 45,0 [Zn^{2+}]_o)} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3. 22$$

For the BDH sphalerite the  $(r_o^*)_{fit}$  values demonstrate no suppression of the initial rate, whilst the  $(r_o^*)_{exp}$  values do appear to demonstrate a suppressive effect of  $[Zn^{2+}]_o$  on the initial rate. Unfortunately insufficient data is available to resolve whether  $Zn^{2+}$  ions do adsorb sufficiently strongly so as to give the  $Zn^{2+}$  adsorption equilibrium constant  $K_g$  a finite value.

Romankiw (1962) leached synthetic sphalerite in  $0,5 \text{ kg-mol/m}^3 \text{ H}_2\text{SO}_4$  at  $298,0 \text{ K}$  with five values of  $Zn^{2+}$  over the range -

$$0,0 \leq [Zn^{2+}]_o \leq 50,0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg-mol/m}^3$$

and detected no influence of  $[Zn^{2+}]_o$  on the initial leaching rate. It is accepted then that  $Zn^{2+}$  ions adsorb sufficiently weakly on BDH sphalerite that the  $Zn^{2+}$  adsorption equilibrium constant  $K_g$  for this sphalerite is approximately zero.

Figure 3.7 plots  $(r_o^\oplus)_{exp}$  and  $(r_o^\oplus)_{fit}$  versus  $[Zn^{2+}]_o$  (where  $r_o^\oplus = \frac{r_o}{\phi_o}$ ) for the VMPR sphalerite, and a significant suppressive effect of the  $Zn^{2+}$  ions on the initial rate is observed. In section 3.2.3 the  $H^+$  ion adsorption equilibrium constant for this sphalerite was accepted as being zero.

----- Calculated by eqn. 3.28

conditions	Temp	(K)	318,0
	Mass	(kg)	0,01
	stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

legend	○	$(r_o^\theta)_{exp}$
	x	$(r_o^\theta)_{fit}$

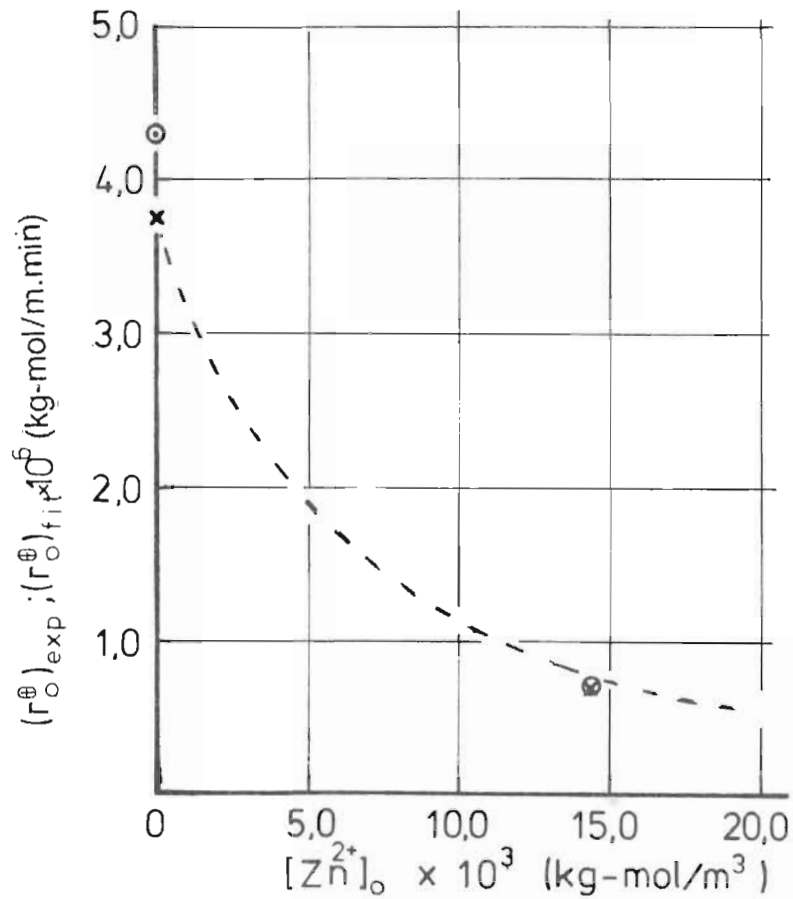


Figure 3.7 Initial specific rate versus initial zinc ion concentration for the VMPR sphalerite.



Model G therefore adopts the following form (using the rate constant value expressed in equation 3.18):

$$r_o^{\oplus} = \frac{3,8 \times 10^{-6} [H^+]_o^2}{(1,0 + K_{22} [Zn^{2+}]_o)^2} \dots\dots\dots 3.23$$

The value of  $K_{22}$  was determined as follows:

$$\text{Let } 1,0 + K_{22} [Zn^{2+}]_o = Z \dots\dots\dots 3.24$$

Now experimentally

$r_o^{\oplus} = 0,684 \times 10^{-6}$  (at  $[Zn^{2+}]_o = 14,237 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $[H^+]_o = 1,0$ ) so that equation 3.23 takes the form -

$$0,684 \times 10^{-6} = \frac{3,8 \times 10^{-6}}{Z^2} \dots\dots\dots 3.25$$

$$\text{Hence } Z = 2,36 \dots\dots\dots 3.26$$

Substituting for  $[Zn^{2+}]_o$  and  $Z$  in equation 3.24 and solving for  $K_{22}$  gives -

$$K_{22} = \frac{2,36 - 1,0}{14,237 \times 10^{-3}} = 95,53 \dots\dots\dots 3.27$$

Hence equation 3.23 takes the form -

$$r_o^{\oplus} = \frac{3,8 \times 10^{-6} [H^+]_o^2}{(1,0 + 95,53 [Zn^{2+}]_o)^2} \dots\dots\dots 3.28$$

The solution to equation 3.28 is plotted on figure 3.7.

3.2.5 EFFECT OF INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>S CONCENTRATION  
ON INITIAL RATE

According to mechanism 1 H<sub>2</sub>S does not form an adsorbed specie and hence models A and B do not contain terms for the H<sub>2</sub>S adsorption equilibrium constant in the denominator. Models F and G for mechanism 2 do contain such terms, but if the H<sub>2</sub>S is only very weakly adsorbed such terms could have zero values. Experiments were conducted in which H<sub>2</sub>S gas was purged into the leach reactor containing aqueous H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> to give a significant positive H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressure prior to injecting the sphalerite solids. The initial H<sub>2</sub>S concentration was determined analytically.

Table 3.7 summarises  $(r_o^*)_{\text{exp}}$  and  $(r_o^*)_{\text{fit}}$  data for VMWBM (at three  $[H^+]_0$  values); VMZCR; BDH and VMPR sphalerites leached without and with H<sub>2</sub>S initially present. Only for the VMPR sphalerite is a significant suppression of the initial rate observed. The  $(r_o^*)_{\text{exp}}$  data shows rather serious scatter (often giving larger values with H<sub>2</sub>S present than without). Figures 3.8 to 3.11 plot the  $P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  and  $\Delta P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  versus time rate curves for the experiments without and with H<sub>2</sub>S initially present.

$\Delta P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  is defined as :-

$$\Delta P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}} = P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}} - P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}_0} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3.29$$

where  $P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  = measured total H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressure;

$P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}_0}$  = measured initial H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressure  
at time  $t = 0$  ;

Table No.	Sphalerite type	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg - mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	$[H_2S]_0$ $\times 10^3$ (kg - mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	$(r_o^*)_{exp}$ (kg-mol/m <sup>2</sup> .min)	$(r_o^*)_{fit}$ (kg-mol/m <sup>2</sup> .min)
I 8	VMWBM	0,5	0	15,1	14,1
I 13	VMWBM	0,5	5,0	11,9	19,8
I 2	VMWBM	1,0	0	22,8	25,5
I 14	VMWBM	1,0	11,9	28,1	25,5
I 9	VMWBM	2,0	0	38,6	43,3
I 15	VMWBM	2,0	20,0	46,8	42,9
I 17	VMZCR	1,0	0	25,3	18,0
I 25	VMZCR	1,0	9,8	22,0	N.D.
I 27	VMPR	1,0	0	11,2	11,1
I 35	VMPR	1,0	17,0	4,08	N.D.
I 36	B D H	1,0	0	13,8	14,1
I 43	B D H	1,0	9,801	15,2	17,9

T A B L E 3. 7

SUMMARY OF INITIAL RATE RESULTS  
FOR LEACHING WITH AND WITHOUT  
H<sub>2</sub>S INITIALLY PRESENT

Conditions	Temp.	(K)	318,0
	Mass	(kg)	0,01
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

Curve (-)	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	$[H_2S] \times 10^3$	Table (-)
	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	
a	2,0	0	I9
b	2,0	20,0	I15
c	1,0	0	I2
d	1,0	11,9	I14
e	0,5	0	I8
f	0,5	5,0	I13

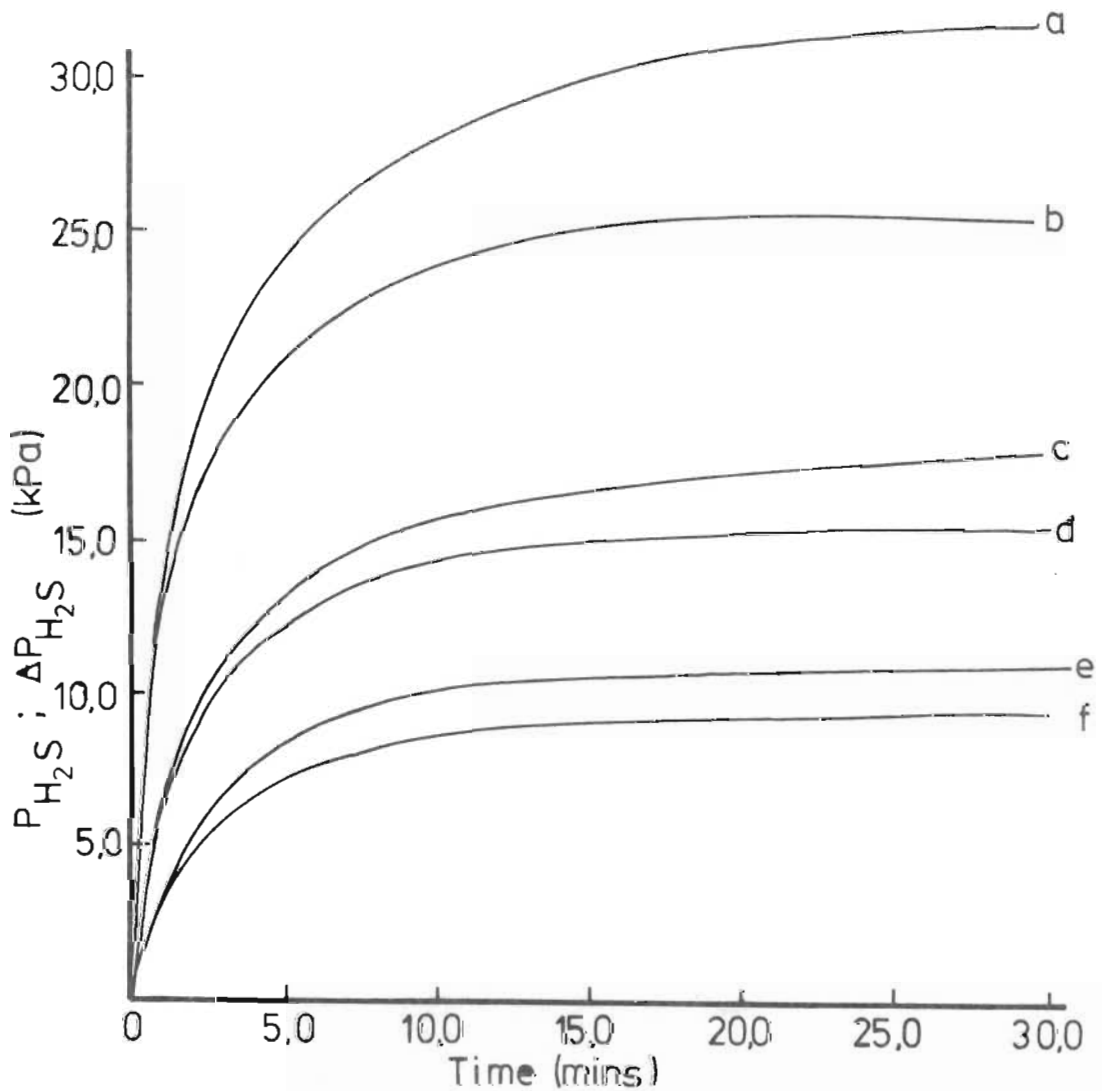


Figure 3.8 H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressure versus time for VMWBM sphalerite without and with H<sub>2</sub>S initially present.

Conditions	Mass	(kg)	004
	Temp.	(K)	318.0
	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.0
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000.0

legend	Curve	$[H_2S]_0 \times 10^3$	Table
	(-)	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	(-)
	a	0	I 36
	b	9.801	I 43

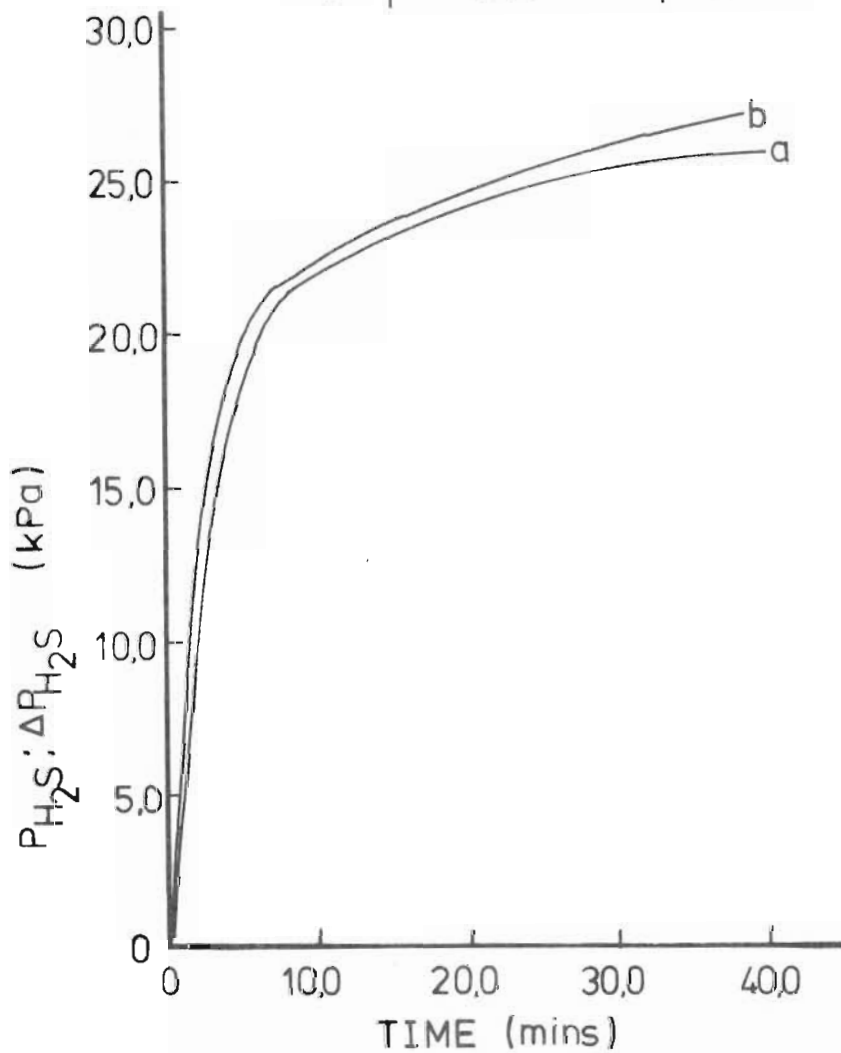


Figure 3.9  $H_2S$  partial pressure versus time for BDH sphalerite leaching without and with  $H_2S$  initially present.

<u>Conditions</u>	Temp.	(K)	318,0
	Mass	(kg)	0,01
	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

<u>legend</u>	Curve	$[H_2S]_0 \times 10^3$	Table
	(-)	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	(-)
	a	0	I 17
	b	9,8	I 25

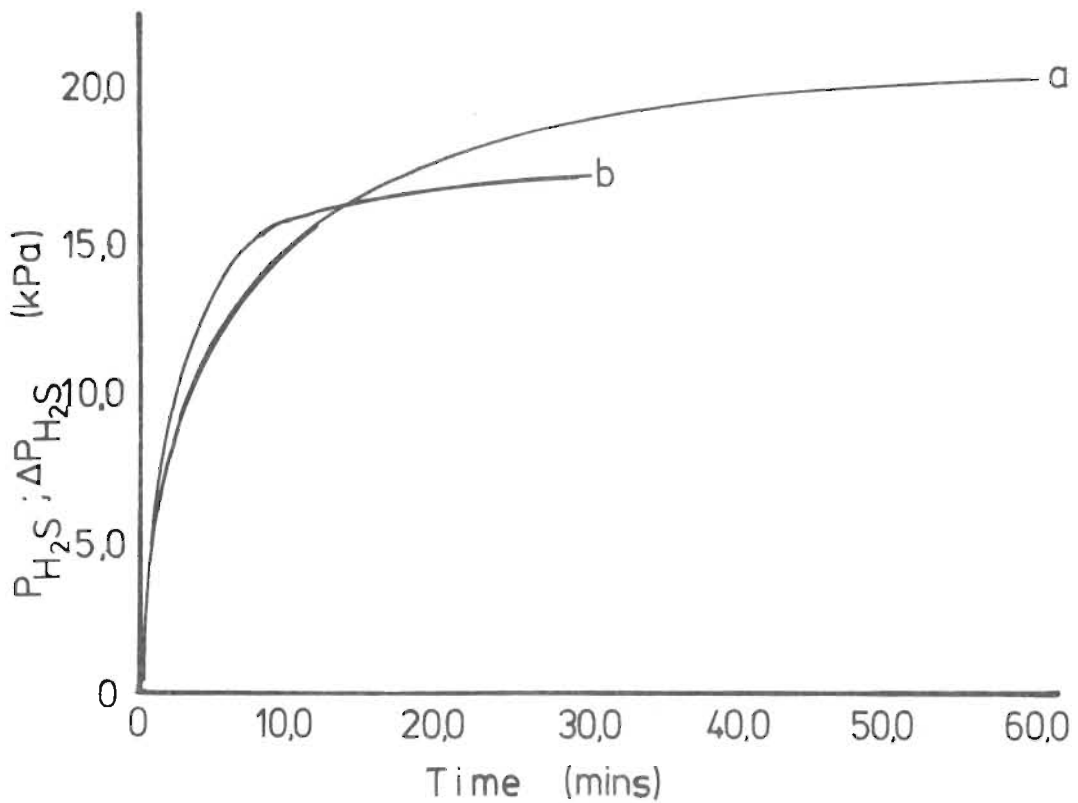


Figure 3.10 H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressure versus time for VMZCR sphalerite leaching without and with H<sub>2</sub>S initially present.



<u>conditions</u>		Temp	(K)	318,0
		Mass	(kg)	0,01
		$[H_2SO_4]$	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
		Stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

<u>legend</u>		RUN	Table	$(P_{H_2S})_0$	$[H_2S]_0$
		(-)	(-)	(kPa)	$\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
a		132	I 27	0	0
b		196	I 35	11,91	18,0

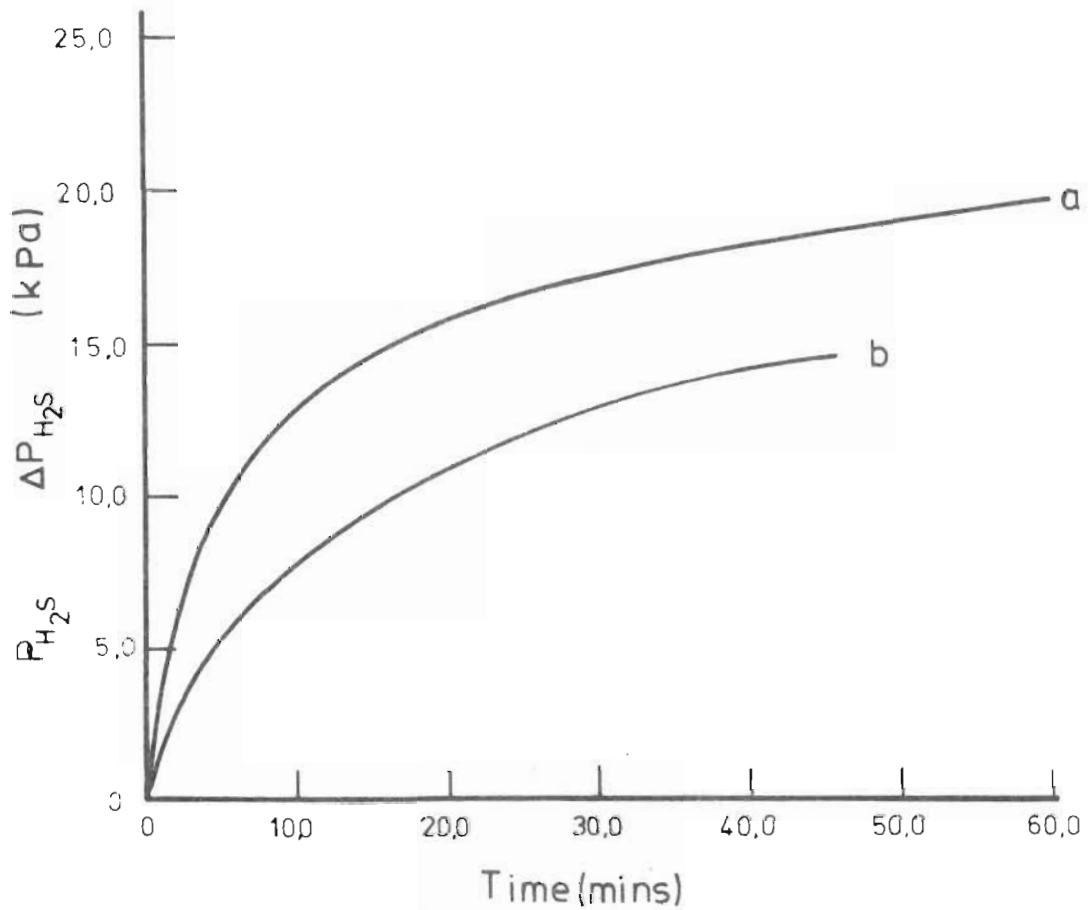


Figure 3.11  $H_2S$  partial pressure versus time for VMPR sphalerite leaching without and with  $H_2S$  initially present.

$\Delta P_{H_2S}$  = calculated  $H_2S$  partial pressure which increases as dissolution proceeds.

The results on the figures 3.8 to 3.11 confirm that only in the case of the VMPR sphalerite does the  $H_2S$  significantly suppress the initial dissolution rate. Hence it is assumed that if  $H_2S$  adsorption does occur for the VMWBM, VMZCR and BDH sphalerites, it does so only weakly and that the  $H_2S$  adsorption equilibrium constants for these sphalerites are effectively zero.

The following form of model G can be solved to determine the  $H_2S$  adsorption equilibrium constant  $K_{23}$  for the VMPR sphalerite. Using the rate constant value contained in equation 3.18 -

$$r_0^{\oplus} = \frac{3,8 \times 10^{-6} [H^+]^2}{(1,0 + K_{23} [H_2S]_0)^2} \dots\dots\dots 3.30$$

$$\text{Let } 1,0 + K_{23} [H_2S]_0 = Z \dots\dots\dots 3.31$$

Now experimentally -

$$r_0^{\oplus} = 1,55 \times 10^{-6} \text{ at } [H_2S]_0 = 18,0 \times 10^{-3}$$

and  $[H^+]_0 = 1,0$  so that equation 3.30 takes the form -

$$1,55 \times 10^{-6} = \frac{3,8 \times 10^{-6}}{Z^2} \dots\dots\dots 3.32$$

$$\text{Hence } Z = 1,66$$

Substituting for  $H_2S_0$  and  $Z$  in equation 3.31 and solving for  $K_{23}$  gives -

$$K_{23} = \frac{1,66 - 1,0}{18,0 \times 10^{-3}} = 36,4 \dots\dots\dots 3.33$$

Hence equation 3.30 takes the form -

$$r_o^\oplus = \frac{3,8 \times 10^{-6} [H^+]^2}{(1,0 + 36,4 [H_2S]_o)^2} \dots\dots\dots 3.34$$

Figure 3.12 plots  $(r_o^\oplus)_{\text{exp}}$  versus  $[H_2S]_o$  for the VMPR sphalerite and also plots the solution to equation 3.34.

----- Calculated by eqn. 3.34

Conditions	Temp.	(K)	318,0
	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
	Mass	(kg)	0,01
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

legend	○	$(r_0^\theta)_{exp}$
	x	$(r_0^\theta)_{fit}$

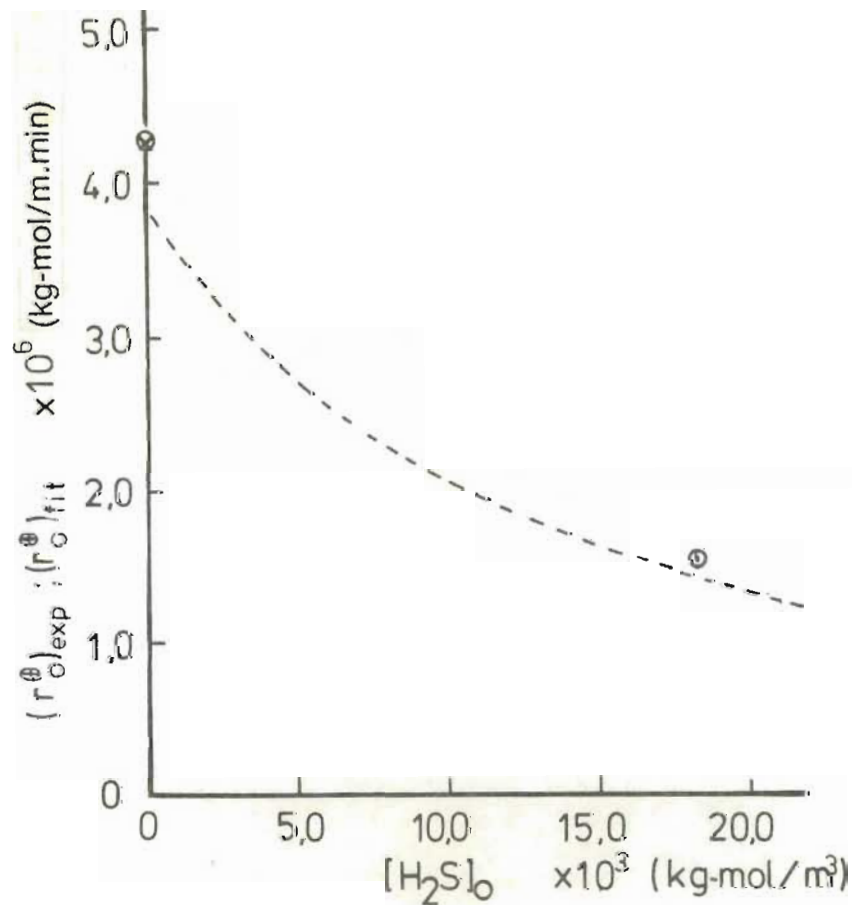


Figure 3.12 Initial specific rate versus initial H<sub>2</sub>S concentration for VMPR sphalerite.

3.2.6 EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE ON INITIAL RATE

The leaching models F and G incorporate not only rate constants, but also adsorption equilibrium constants which are likely to be temperature dependent. For example, leaching a given sphalerite at different temperatures (but at common  $[H^+]_0$ ;  $[Zn^{2+}]_0$  or  $[H_2S]_0$  values), the overall resultant measured activation energy which is ascribed to the rate constant is in fact only an apparant activation energy. In order to establish the temperature dependencies of the individual adsorption equilibrium constants it would be necessary to perform experiments at different temperatures for different values of  $[H^+]_0$ ;  $[Zn^{2+}]_0$  or  $[H_2S]_0$ . This has not been done in this study, nor in any other study of which the author is aware.

In order to observe the effect of temperature on the leaching of the VMWBM, VMZCR, BDH and VMPR sphalerites it is assumed that the forward rate constants of models F and G can be described by an Arrhenius type equation, i.e. -

$$k_{11} \text{ or } k_{16} = A_E \exp \left( \frac{-E_a}{R T} \right) \dots 3.35$$

For the VMWBM sphalerite (from equation 3.12) -

$$k_{11} = \frac{r_0 (1.0 + 0.4674 [H^+]_0)}{\Phi_0 [H^+]_0} \dots 3.36$$

For the VMZCR sphalerite (from equation 3.13) -

$$k_{11} = \frac{r_0 (1.0 + 0.5954 [H^+]_0)}{\Phi_0 [H^+]_0} \dots 3.37$$

For the BDH sphalerite (from equation 3.16) -

$$k_{11} = \frac{r_o}{\phi_o [H^+]_o} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3.38$$

For the VMPR sphalerite (from equation 3.18) -

$$k_{16} = \frac{r_o}{\phi_o^2 [H^+]_o^2} \quad \dots\dots\dots 3.39$$

Figure 3.13 plots  $\log k_{11}$  and  $\log k_{16}$  (based on  $(r_o)_{\text{exp}}$  or  $(r_o)_{\text{fit}}$  values) versus  $\frac{1}{T}$ .

All the  $(k_{11})_{\text{exp}}$  and  $(k_{11})_{\text{fit}}$ , or  $(k_{16})_{\text{exp}}$  and  $(k_{16})_{\text{fit}}$  data points were linear regressed for each of the sphalerites. Table 3.8 summarises values of  $A_E$  and  $E_a$  for each sphalerite.

Sphalerite ( - )	$A_E$ (kg mol/min.m <sup>2</sup> )	$E_a$ x 10 <sup>-6</sup> (J/kg - mole)
VMWBM	1 062,0	39,43
VMZCR	35 310,0	47,75
BDH	545,1	40,17
VMPR	66,81	45,13

T A B L E 3. 8

SUMMARY OF PRE-EXPONENTIAL  
CONSTANTS  $A_E$  AND ACTIVATION  
ENERGIES  $E_a$  REPRESENTING THE  
ORIGIN AND SLOPE OF THE LINES  
APPEARING ON FIGURE 3.13.



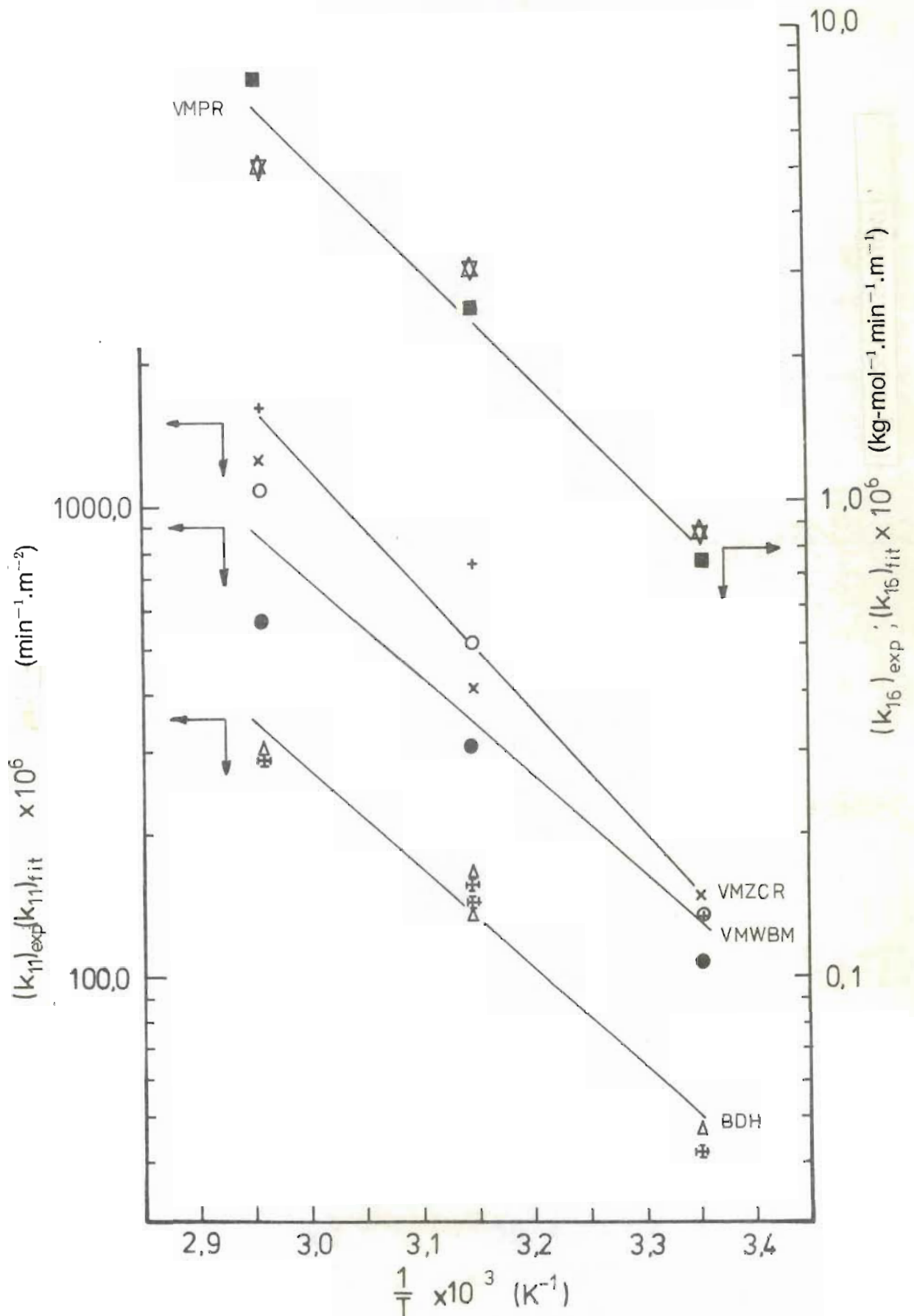


Figure 3.13 Arrhenius plot demonstrating the effect of temperature on the forward rate constants for the VMWBM; VMZCR; VMPR and BDH sphalerites.

In order to improve the fit of final models to the data in which  $\phi_0$  and  $[H_2SO_4]_0$  were varied, pre-exponential constants may be calculated using values of the rate constants appearing previously and using the activation energy values summarised in table 3.8. Thus -

$$A_e = \frac{k_{11} \text{ or } k_{16}}{\exp\left(\frac{-E_a}{318,0}\right)} \dots\dots\dots 3.40$$

Table 3.9 summarises the  $k_{11}$  or  $k_{16}$  values (including the equation<sup>no.</sup> containing these values) and the  $E_a$  values used to calculate  $A_E$ . It is these calculated values of  $A_E$  which are used in the final models.

Sphalerite (—)	$k_{11}$ or $k_{16}$ (—)	Equation number (—)	$E_a$ $\times 10^{-6}$ (J / kg-mol)	Calculated $A_E$ (kg-mol/m <sup>2</sup> .min)
VMWBM	$3,726 \times 10^{-4}$	3.12	39,43	1 126,0
VMZCR	$3,996 \times 10^{-4}$	3.13	47,75	28 130,0
BDH	$1,64 \times 10^{-4}$	3.16	40,17	665,5
VMPR	$3,8 \times 10^{-6}$	3.18	45,13	99,24

T A B L E 3.9

SUMMARY OF PRE-EXPONENTIAL

CONSTANTS  $A_E$  CALCULATED USING

EQUATION 3.40

### 3. 2. 7 FINAL FORM OF THE INITIAL RATE EQUATIONS

A general initial rate equation may be represented as follows :

$$r_o = \frac{\phi_o^m A_E \exp\left(\frac{-E_a}{RT}\right) [H^+]_o^m}{(1,0 + K_{H^+} [H^+]_o + K_{Zn^{2+}} [Zn^{2+}]_o + K_{H_2S} [H_2S]_o)^m} \dots\dots\dots 3. 41$$

Table 3.10 summarises the values of all the constants in equation 3.41 for the VMWBM, VMZCR, BDH and the VMPR sphalerites.

The calculated initial rates obtained on inserting the constants on table 3.10 into equation 3.41 for each sphalerite are reported in tables 3.3 to 3.6. Figures 3.14 to 3.17 plot the  $(r_o)_{exp}$  and  $(r_o)_{fit}$  values versus the calculated initial rate  $(r_o)_{calc}$  values reported in tables 3.3 to 3.6. Generally a very good fit is observed for each sphalerite.

### 3. 2. 8 REASONS FOR REJECTING MECHANISM 1 IN FAVOUR OF MECHANISM 2

The following reasons are offered as justification for selecting mechanism 2 rather than mechanism 1 to describe the kinetics of sphalerite leaching under case (i) conditions ( $[Fe^{3+}]_o = 0,0$ ).

- a) The initial rate forms of models F and G based on the dual site kinetics proposed in mechanism 2 have been shown to fit the

Sphalerite Type	m	$A_E$	$E_a$ $\times 10^6$	$K_{H^+}$	$K_{Zn^{2+}}$	$K_{H_2S}$
VMWBM	1,0	1 126,0	39,43	0,4674	35,0	0,0
VMZCR	1,0	28 130,0	47,75	0,5954	45,0	0,0
B D H	1,0	655,5	40,17	0,0	0,0	0,0
VMPR	2,0	99,2	45,13	0,0	95,53	36,4

T A B L E 3. 10

SUMMARY OF CONSTANTS APPEARING

IN THE GENERAL INITIAL RATE

LEACHING EQUATION 3. 41

— Line representing 1:1 correspondence between  $(r_o)_{exp}$  or  $(r_o)_{fit}$  and  $(r_o)_{calc}$ .

legend

○	$(r_o)_{exp}$
x	$(r_o)_{fit}$

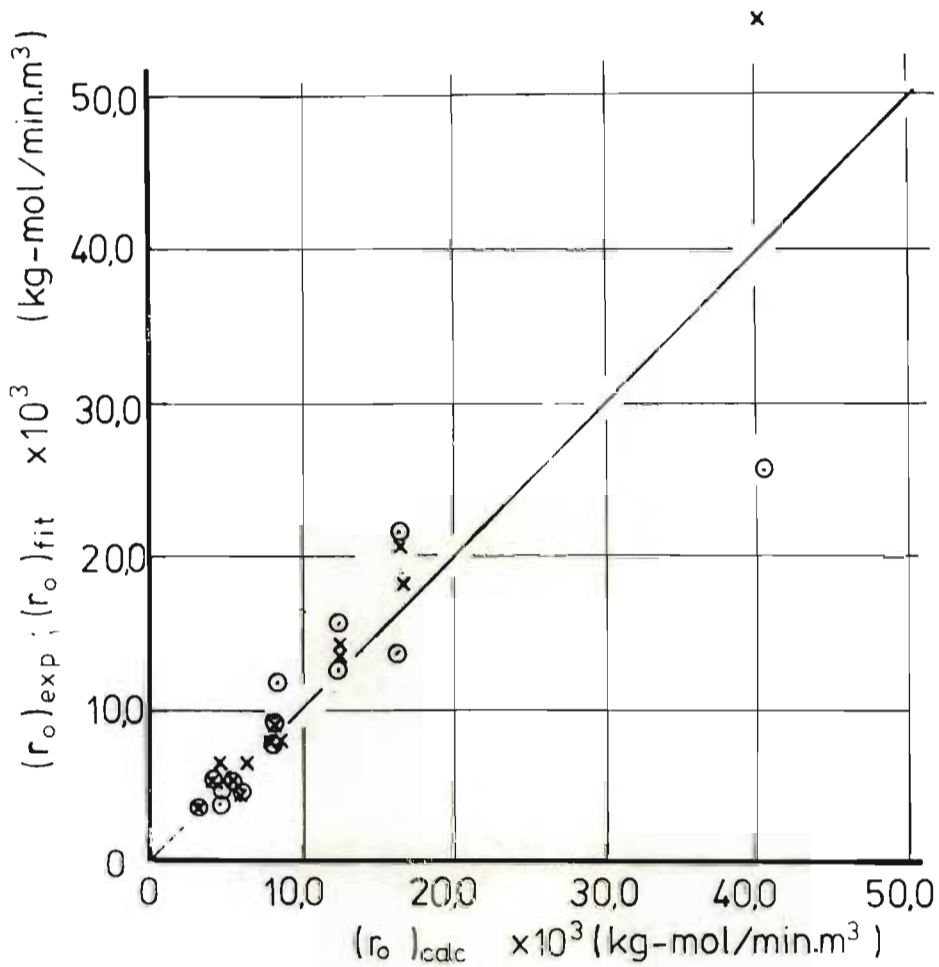


Figure 3.14 Comparison between initial rate values calculated using eqn. 3.41 with experimental and fitted initial rate values for the VM/WBM spalerite. All values are presented in table 3.3

— Line representing 1:1 correspondence between  $(r_o)_{exp}$  or  $(r_o)_{fit}$  and  $(r_o)_{calc}$ .

legend	○	$(r_o)_{exp}$
	×	$(r_o)_{fit}$

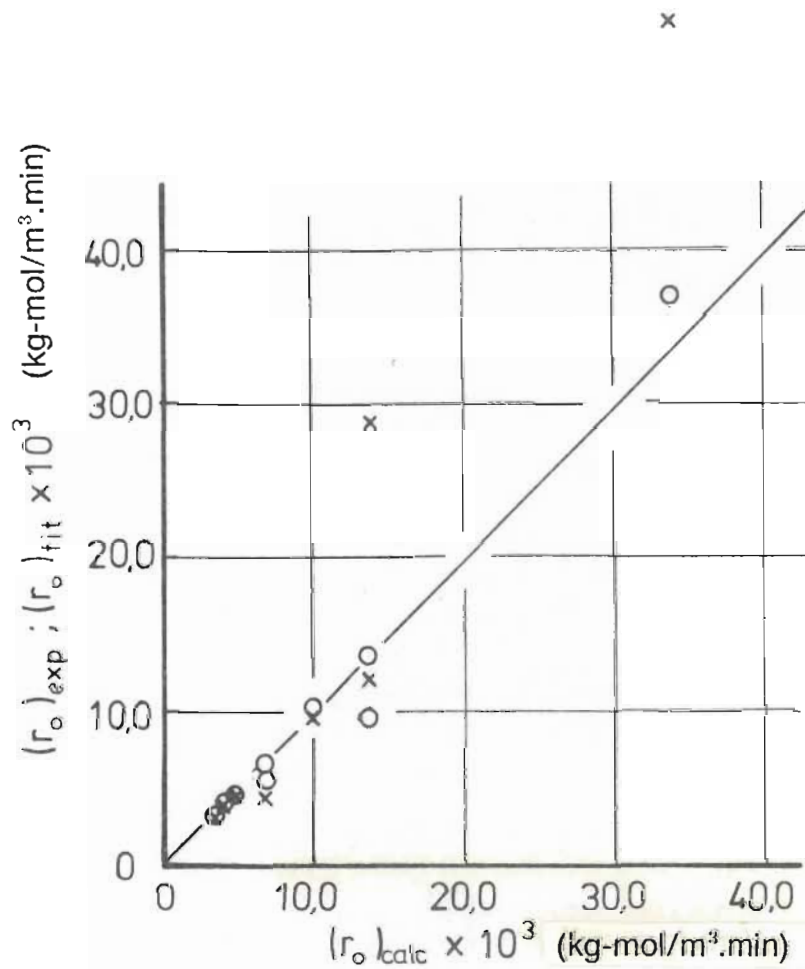


Figure 3.15 Comparison between initial rate values calculated using eqn. 3.41 with experimental and fitted initial rate values for the VMZCR sphalerite. All values are presented in table 3.4



— Line representing 1:1 correspondence between  $(r_o)_{exp}$  or  $(r_o)_{fit}$  and  $(r_o)_{calc}$

legend	$(r_o)_{exp}$
	$(r_o)_{fit}$

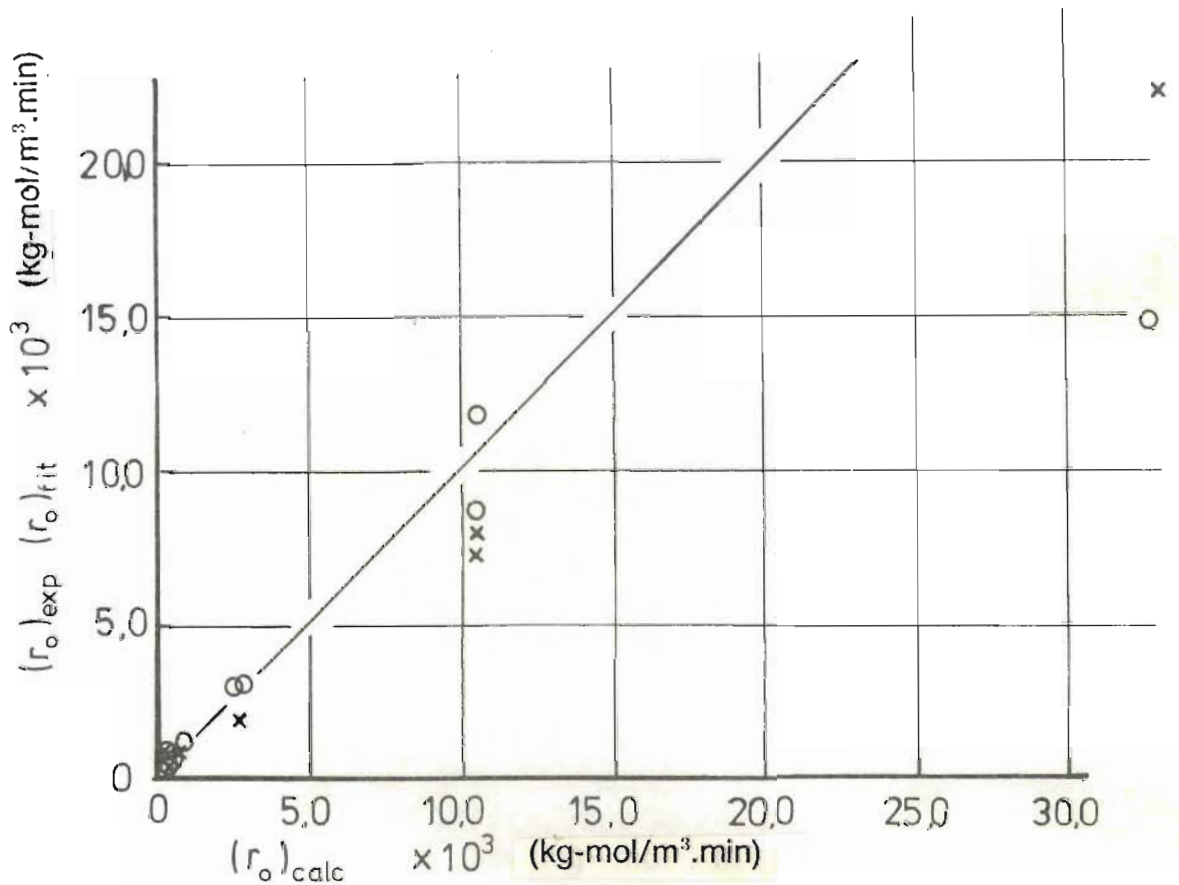


Figure 3.16 Comparison between initial rate values calculated using eqn. 3.41 with experimental and fitted initial rate values for the VMPR sphalerite. All values are presented in table 3.5.

— Line representing 1:1 correspondence between  $(r_o)_{exp}$  or  $(r_o)_{fit}$  and  $(r_o)_{calc}$

legend	
o	$(r_o)_{exp}$
x	$(r_o)_{fit}$

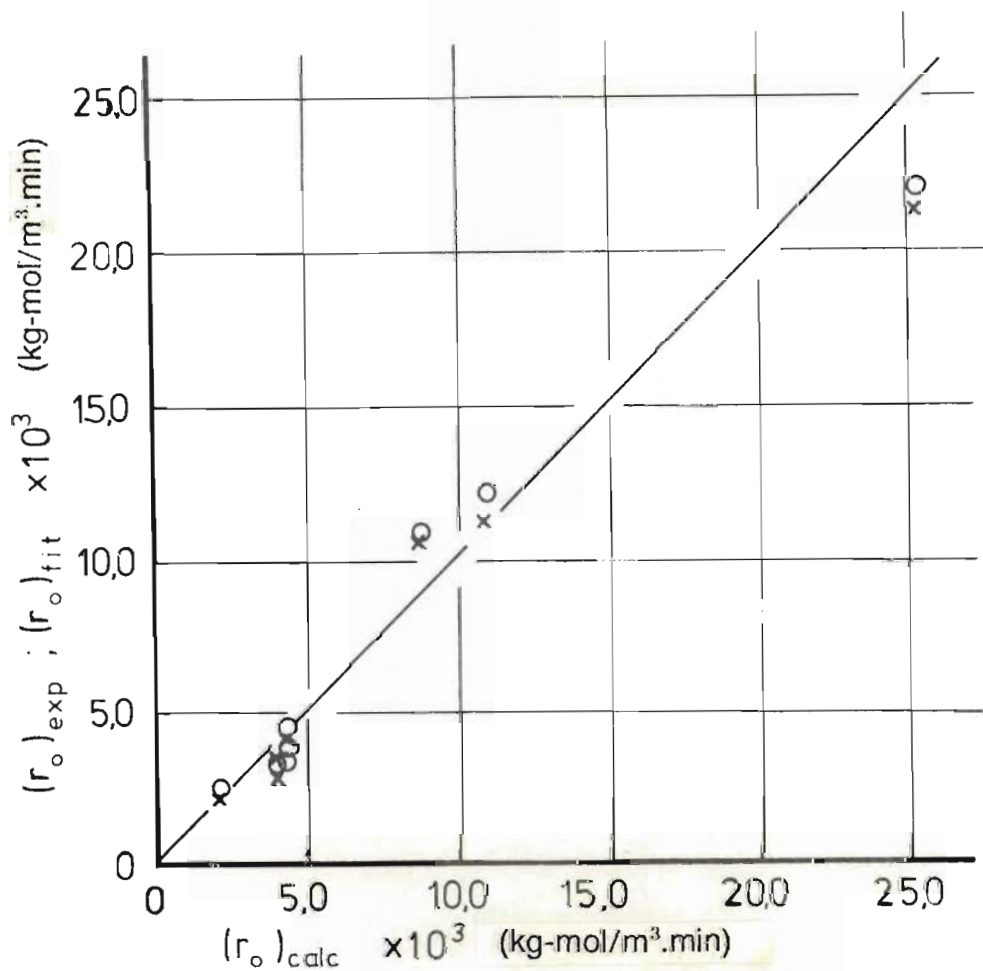


Figure 3.17 Comparison between initial rate values calculated using eqn. 3.41 with experimental and fitted initial rate values for the BDH sphalerite. All values are presented in table 3.6

initial leaching rate behaviour of the VMWBM, VMZCR and BDH sphalerites (model F) and of the VMPR sphalerite (model G). On the other hand none of the sphalerites exhibited 1st and 2nd order dependencies on the initial area and  $[H^+]_0$  respectively as predicted by model B based on the single site kinetics proposed in mechanism 1.

- b) When the  $H^+$ ,  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $H_2S$  species adsorb only weakly so that their adsorption equilibrium constants may be considered to be zero, the overall form of model F (equation 2.81) reduced to exactly the same form of equation as that derived empirically by Romankiw (1962). This is not the case for model A, which demonstrates 1st order dependencies of the reverse reaction on  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $[H_2S]$  and an inverse dependency of the reverse reaction on  $[H^+]$ .

### 3. 3 EXPERIMENTAL TESTING OF CASE (ii) MODELS ( $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \cong 1,8$ )

#### Introduction

In this section model H (equation 2.95) is tested by fitting it to the experimental initial rate results of leaching granular WBM, ZCR and PR; finely milled VMWBM, VMZCR and VMPR, and synthetic

BDH sphalerite in acidic ferric sulphate media with  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \cong 1,8$ . Model C (equation 2.52) is identical in form to model H and is thus not referred to further.

The original objective of the experiments reported in this section was to leach the different sphalerites to various extents of zinc recovery, and then measure the surface areas of the leached particles (after washing  $\text{S}^0$  off, using  $\text{CCl}_4$ ). Thus the leaching conditions were not selected primarily to study the effects of different variables (e.g. solids mass;  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]$ ;  $[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]$ ; temperature; agitation;  $[\text{Zn}]_0$  etc.) on the leaching rate, but were basically chosen for the following reasons:

- a) Sufficient solids were required to give significantly measurable B.E.T. areas using the Strohlein apparatus, both before and after leaching.
- b) Stoichiometrically sufficient  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$  was required to permit a given mass of sphalerite solids to be leached to the desired extent.
- c) For a given solids mass and  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$  the temperature was selected so that the leaching rate would proceed sufficiently slowly so as to permit initial rate samples to be taken and filtered without excessive error; but not so slow as to require excessive time to achieve the desired final

extent of zinc dissolution.

- d) Preliminary experiments in which free acid was initially added proceeded slowly and subsequently no  $H_2SO_4$  was added. It was found that on dissolving the ferric sulphate crystals in sufficient double de-ionised distilled water to produce 1,0ℓ solution, that measureable  $H_2SO_4$  was formed in such a way that  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \geq 1,8$ . The  $H_2SO_4$  formed in this way remained essentially measureably constant even after most of the  $Fe^{3+}$  had been reduced to  $Fe^{2+}$ .

Unfortunately the same reagent grade Japanese manufactured ferric sulphate crystals used to perform the bulk of the research was unobtainable towards the end of the project. Consequently a less pure technical grade of ferric sulphate powder (marketed by the British Drug House Company) was used for a few of the final experiments.

Something was present in the alternative ferric solution which seriously interfered with the  $H_2SO_4$  determination technique, and reproducible  $H_2SO_4$  analyses could not be performed and are consequently not presented.

All the experimental data supporting the results used in this section are comprehensively reported in tabular form in Appendix J. Besides reporting initial leaching conditions and measured  $[Zn^{2+}]$ ,  $[Fe^{3+}]$  and  $[H_2SO_4]$  versus

time rate data, the tables report additional results such as final specific surface area; total filtered dry residue mass; recovered  $S^0$  mass etc. for those experiments in which these values were determined.

### 3. 3. 1 EXPERIMENTAL INITIAL RATE RESULTS

Tables 3.11 to 3.14 (facing figures 3.18 to 3.21) summarise the experimental conditions and initial rate results for the different sphalerites used.

The initial rate  $r_0 = \left( \frac{d [Zn^{2+}]}{dt} \right)_0$  was obtained by measuring the initial slope of the  $[Zn^{2+}]_0$  versus time rate curve. The rate curve was obtained by plotting the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time data and visually fitting a smooth curve through the data points.

In the case of the ZCR sphalerite, the rate curves frequently never passed through the origin. This probably resulted from oxidised ZnO coating on the sphalerite surface dissolving very rapidly relative to the slow rate of dissolution of the ZnS. Although attempts were made to minimise this effect, by washing the sphalerite in dilute acid during pre-treatment, not all of the oxidised material may have been removed.

The rate curve was consequently smoothed through the data to intercept the vertical axis at some  $[Zn^{2+}]$  value (referred to as  $[Zn^{2+}]_0$  for the case (ii) data),



and the initial rate was measured by visually fitting a straight line to the curve where it intercepts the Y-axis at the  $Zn^{2+}_o$  value.

According to model H (equation 2.95) the initial rate :-

$$r_{H_o} = k_{18} \phi_o \frac{[Fe^{3+}]_o}{[H^+]_o} \dots\dots\dots 3.42$$

Let  $r_{H_o}^*$  be the specific initial rate, i.e. -

$$r_{H_o}^* = r_{H_o} / \phi_o \dots\dots\dots 3.43$$

The reaction rate constant  $k_{18}$  is then :-

$$k_{18} = r_{H_o}^* \frac{[H^+]_o}{[Fe^{3+}]_o} \dots\dots\dots 3.44$$

Figure 3.18 presents Arrhenius type plots of  $\log k_{18}$  versus  $\frac{1}{T}$  for the WBM, VMWBM and BDH sphalerites.

Figures 3.19 and 3.20 present similar plots for the ZCR and VMZCR sphalerites, and PR and VMPR sphalerites. Since most of the experiments using the granular WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites were done using  $-90,0 + 75,0\mu m$  or  $-75,0 + 63,0\mu m$  size fractions, best fit straight lines have been visually fitted through the data points corresponding to these two size fractions. These lines provide reference values with which to make qualitative observations regarding the effects of particle size, the effect of vibratory milling of each type of sphalerite and permit comparison between the leaching

Table (-)	Size Fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)	Temp. (K)	$M_o$ (kg)	$A_o$ ( $m^2/kg$ )	$[Fe^{3+}]_o$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	$[H_2SO_4]_o$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	$r_{H_o} \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ min)	$r_{H_o}^* \times 10^6$ (kg-mol/min. $m^2$ )	$k_{18} \times 10^6$
J 1	-125,0 + 106,0	358,0	0,1	65,0	0,9848	N.D.	1,92	295,4	N.D.
J 2	- 90,0 + 75,0	318,0	0,15	80,0	1,039	0,822	0,667	55,58	43,97
J 3	- 75,0 + 63,0	343,0	0,1	80,0	0,824	0,337	3,3	412,5	168,7
J 4	- 75,0 + 63,0	355,5	0,1	80,0	0,795	0,298	4,29	535,7	201,0
J 5	- 75,0 + 63,0	368,0	0,1	80,0	1,504	0,561	12,5	1 563,0	582,8
J 6	- 32,0 + 24,0	318,0	0,05	140,0	0,2256	0,1224	0,555	79,29	29,31
J 7	- 24,0 + 17,0	318,0	0,05	320,0	0,217	0,123	1,0	62,50	35,43
J 8	- 17,0 + 12,0	323,0	0,03	420,0	0,1468	0,0612	0,58	46,69	19,46
J 9	VMWBM	318,0	0,02	3 272,0	0,1504	0,051	2,1	32,1	10,88
J 10	VMWBM	338,0	0,02	3 272,0	0,3044	0,0735	6,9	105,0	25,46

T A B L E 3. 11      SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS AND INITIAL RATE RESULTS FOR WBM AND VMWBM SPHALERITES  
LEACHING UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

Table (-)	Temp. (K)	$M_o$ (kg)	$A_o$ ( $m^2/kg$ )	$[Fe^{3+}]_o$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	$[H_2SO_4]_o$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	$r_{H_o} \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ min)	$r_{H_o}^* \times 10^6$ (kg-mol/min. $m^2$ )	$k_{18} \times 10^6$
J 44	323,0	0,05	7 200,0	0,290	0,111	9,0	25,0	9,569
J 45	343,0	0,02	7 200,0	0,1432	0,063	6,0	41,67	18,32
J 46	343,0	0,02	7 200,0	0,292	0,107	11,6	80,56	29,52
J 47	353,0	0,05	7 200,0	0,580	0,223	38,0	105,6	40,58

T A B L E 3. 12      SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS AND INITIAL RATE RESULTS FOR BDH SPHALERITE LEACHING  
UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

a best fit line through  $-90,0 + 75,0 \mu\text{m}$  and  $-75,0 + 63,0 \mu\text{m}$  data points.

b best fit line through BDH sphal. data points.

legend

Size fraction ( $\mu\text{m}$ )		
x	-90,0 + 75,0	WBM sphalerite
•	-75,0 + 63,0	
⊛	-32,0 + 24,0	
+	-24,0 + 17,0	
Δ	-17,0 + 12,0	
⊕	VMWBM sphalerite	
□	BDH sphalerite	

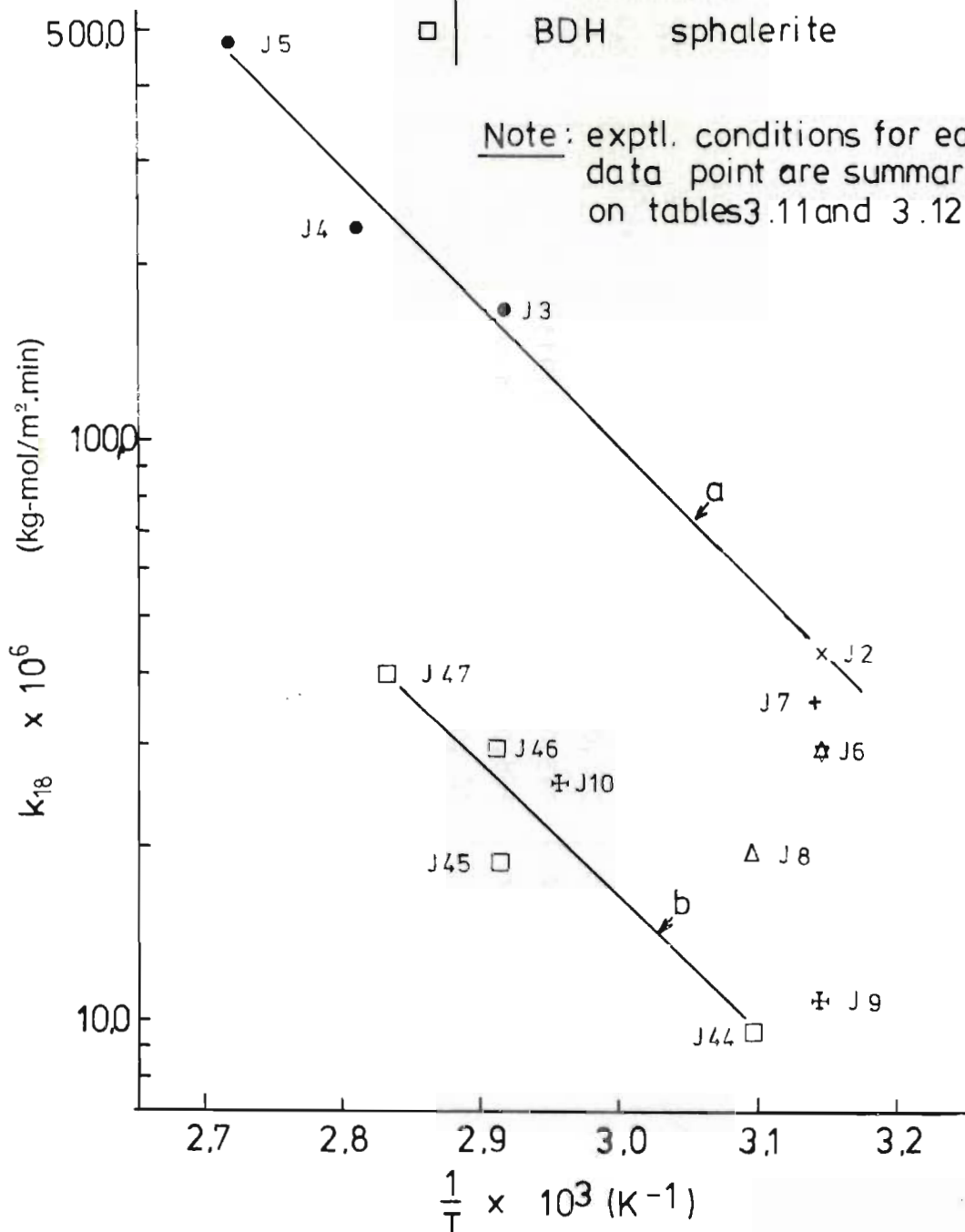


Figure 3.18 Arrhenius plot demonstrating the effect of temperature on  $k_{18}$  (as defined by eqn 3.44) for the WBM; VMWBM and BDH sphalerites.

Table (-)	Size Fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)	Temp. (K)	$M_o$ (kg)	$A_o$ ( $m^2/kg$ )	$[Fe^{3+}]_o$ (kg - mol / $m^3$ )	$[H_2SO_4]_o$ (kg - mol / $m^3$ )	$[Zn^{2+}]_o$ $\times 10^3$	$r_{H_o}$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3 \cdot min$ )	$r_{H_o}^{**}$ $\times 10^6$ (kg-mol/ $min \cdot m^2$ )	$k_{18}$ $\times 10^6$
J 11	-212,0	303,0	0,02	450,5	0,376	0,184	6,8	0,101	11,20	5,486
J 12	-212,0	323,0	0,02	450,5	0,376	0,184	6,4	0,372	41,28	20,17
J 13	-212,0	358,0	0,02	450,5	0,376	0,194	27,91	1,176	130,52	67,34
J 14	-212,0	373,0	0,02	450,5	0,376	0,184	22,9	2,357	261,59	131,20
J 15	-106,0 + 90,0	343,0	0,02	140,0	0,383	0,188	9,2	0,421	150,4	73,80
J 16	-106,0 + 90,0	358,0	0,05	140,0	N.D.	N.D.	15,0	1,867	266,7	N.D.
J 17	-106,0 + 90,0	368,0	0,02	140,0	0,362	0,19	3,3	2,32	828,6	434,9
J 18	-106,0 + 90,0	368,0	0,05	140,0	0,927	0,469	15,0	6,0	857,1	426,0
J 19	-90,0 + 75,0	338,0	0,05	150,0	0,304	N.D.	5,0	0,97	129,3	N.D.
J 20	-90,0 + 75,0	343,0	0,05	150,0	0,913	0,459	10,0	2,4	320,0	159,5
J 21	-90,0 + 75,0	368,0	0,1	150,0	1,49	0,804	30,0	11,75	783,3	422,7
J 22	-90,0 + 75,0	368,0	0,1	150,0	0,902	0,475	25,0	11,96	797,3	419,9
J 23	-75,0 + 63,0	323,0	0,1	150,0	0,886	0,454	18,0	1,32	88,0	45,09
J 24	-45,0 + 38,0	343,0	0,02	185,0	0,367	0,186	3,3	0,914	247,0	125,2
J 25	-45,0 + 38,0	368,0	0,02	185,0	0,367	0,188	3,0	3,44	929,7	478,8
J 26	-45,0 + 38,0	368,0	0,01	185,0	0,362	0,188	1,0	2,5	1 351,3	701,8
J 27	-17,0 + 12,0	323,0	0,02	420,0	0,145	0,059	4,0	0,33	39,29	16,0
J 28	VMZCR	318	0,02	2 708,0	0,144	0,0633	0	3.50	64,62	28,41
J 29	VMZCR	338	0,02	2 708,0	0,299	N.D.	0	7.00	129,2	N.D.

T A B L E 3 . 13

SUMMARY OF LEACHING CONDITIONS AND INITIAL RATE RESULTS FOR ZCR AND  
VMZCR SPHALERITES LEACHING UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

c best fit line through -90,0+75,0 $\mu$ m and -75,0+63,0 $\mu$ m data points.  
 d best fit through -212,0 $\mu$ m data.

Size fraction ( $\mu$ m)	
●	-212,0
+	-106,0+90,0
x	-90,0+75,0
o	-75,0+63,0
Y	-45,0+38,0
$\Delta$	-17,0+12,0
} ZCR sphal.	
$\oplus$	VMZCR sphal.

Note: exptl. conditions for each data point are summarised on table 3.13

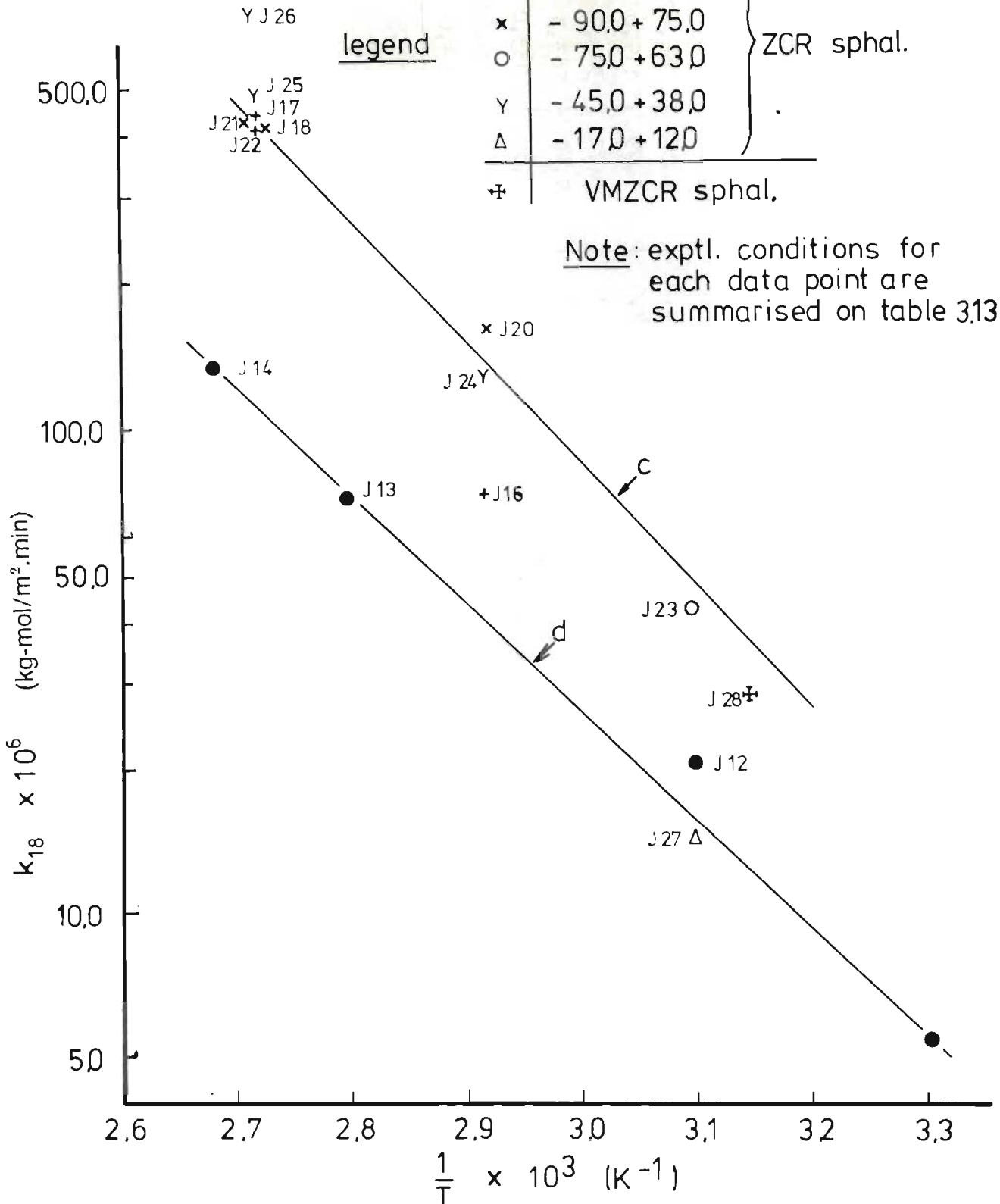


Figure 3.19 Arrhenius type plot demonstrating the effect of temperature on  $k_{18}$  (where  $k_{18}$  is defined by eqn. 3.44) for ZCR and VMZCR sphalerite.



Table (-)	Size Fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)	Temp. (K)	$M_o$ (kg)	$A_o$ ( $m^2/kg$ )	$[Fe^{3+}]_o$	$[H_2SO_4]_o$	$[Zn^{2+}]_o$ $\times 10^3$	$r_{H_o} \times 10^3$ ( $kg\text{-mol}/$ $min.m^3$ )	$r_{H_o}^* \times 10^6$ ( $kg\text{-mol}/min.m^2$ )	$k_g \times 10^6$
					(kg-mol / $m^3$ )					
J 30	-106,0 + 90,0	318,0	0,02	140,0	0,344	N.D.	2,0	0,40	46,40	N.D.
J 31 <sup>(2)</sup>	-106,0 + 90,0	318,0	0,05	140,0	0,466	0,631	142,0 <sup>(2)</sup>	0,08	11,43	15,48
J 32	-90,0 + 75,0	343,0	0,15	150,0	0,763	0,413	0	6,88	305,8	96,36
J 33 <sup>(1)</sup>	-90,0 + 75,0	343,0	0,1	764,0 <sup>(1)</sup>	0,412	0,222	0	5,3	69,37	37,38
J 34	-75,0 + 63,0	308,0	0,05	150,0	0,14	0,063	1,3	0,21	28,0	12,6
J 35	-75,0 + 63,0	318,0	0,05	150,0	0,279	0,111	2,0	0,50	66,67	26,52
J 36	-75,0 + 63,0	323,0	0,1	150,0	0,802	0,296	4,0	1,79	119,0	43,92
J 37	-75,0 + 63,0	343,0	0,1	150,0	0,877	0,444	0	5,71	380,7	192,7
J 38	-75,0 + 63,0	358,0	0,08	150,0	0,716	0,155	0	9,40	783,3	169,6
J 39	-75,0 + 63,0	368,0	0,1	150,0	0,806	0,322	0	30,50	2033,0	812,3
J 40	-24,0 + 17,0	318,0	0,03	320,0	0,225	0,873	3,0	0,2	20,83	80,83
J 41	-17,0 + 12,0	323,0	0,02	420,0	0,147	0,062	3,0	2,13	254,0	107,1
J 42	VMPR	318,0	0,02	2630,0	0,1432	0,0633	0	23,75	451,5	199,6
J 43	VMPR	318,0	0,02	2630,0	0,308	N.D.	0	24,0	456,3	N.D.

1) The  $CCl_4$  washed residue from the run reported on table J 33 was used in this experiment.

2) The leach solution used in this experiment contained 0,8ℓ of the final filtered solution of the experiment reported on table J 2.

T A B L E 3. 14

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS AND INITIAL RATE RESULTS FOR PR AND VMPR SPHALERITE LEACHING

UNDER CASE (i) CONDITIONS



— e best fit line through - 90,0 + 75,0  $\mu\text{m}$  and - 75,0 + 63,0  $\mu\text{m}$  data points.

legend

	Size fraction ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	
+	-106,0 + 90,0	} PR sphalerite
x	- 90,0 + 75,0	
o	- 75,0 + 63,0	
Y	- 24,0 + 17,0	
$\Delta$	- 17,0 + 12,0	
$\oplus$	VMPR sphalerite	

Note: exptl. conditions for each data point are summarised on table 3.14

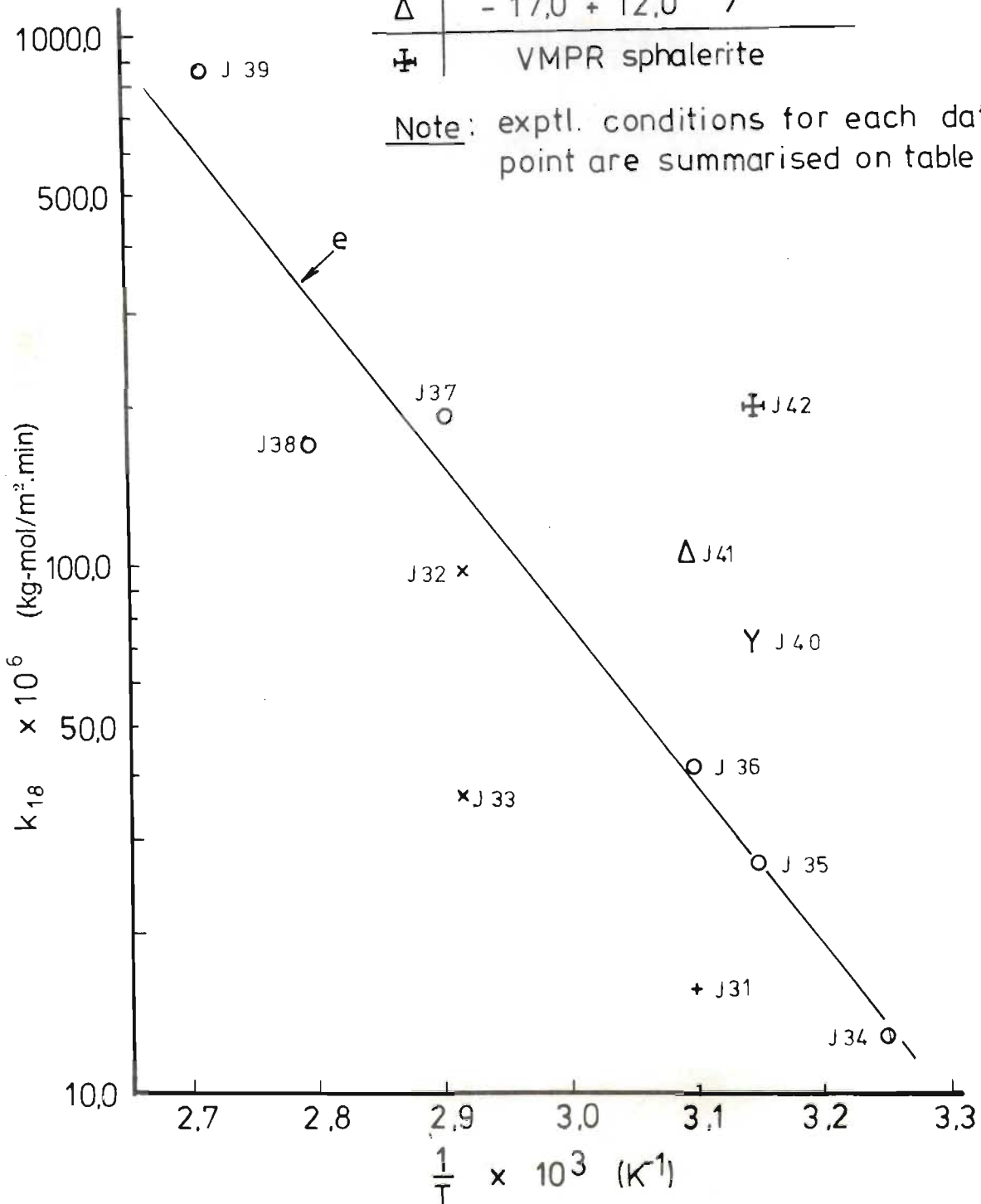


Figure 3.20 Arrhenius plot demonstrating the effect of temperature on  $k_{18}$  (where  $k_{18}$  is defined by eqn. 3.44) for the PR and VMPR sphalerites.

behaviour of different sphalerites with each other and with the BDH synthetic sphalerite.

The results for each of the sphalerites are now discussed individually.

### 3.3.1.1 WBM, VMWBM AND BDH SPHALERITE RESULTS

From figure 3.18 the following observations are made :

- a) The line 'a' fits very well through the  $-90,0 + 75,0\mu\text{m}$  and  $-75,0 + 63,0\mu\text{m}$  WBM sphalerite size fraction data points. This suggests that over a narrow size range model H represented by equation 3.42 fits the WBM sphalerite data.
- b) The activation energies represented by the slopes of the best fit lines 'a' and 'b' through the WBM and the BDH sphalerite data points are virtually identical, i.e.  $E_a = -45,62 \times 10^6 \text{ J/kg-mole}$  for the WBM sphalerite and  $E_a = -45,38 \times 10^6 \text{ J/kg-mole}$  for the BDH sphalerite.
- c) In order to observe the effect of particle size on the leaching rate, a specific initial rate<sub>constant</sub> ratio  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  is proposed as follows :

$$\lambda(\bar{D}) = \frac{k_{18}}{(k_{18})_{\text{ref}}} \dots\dots\dots 3.45$$

where -

$k_{18}$  is defined by equation 3.44 ;

$(k_{18})_{\text{ref}}$  = the value of the best fit  
reference line 'a' on figure 3.18 at a  
given value of  $\frac{1}{T}$  ;

$\bar{D}$  = arithmetic mean of the size fraction  
upper and lower limits (e.g.  $\bar{D} = \frac{90,0 + 75,0}{2,0} \mu\text{m}$   
for the  $-90,0 + 75,0 \mu\text{m}$  size fraction) .

Figure 3.21 plots  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  versus  $\bar{D}$  for the  
WBM, VMWBM and BDH sphalerites. It has been  
assumed that the mean diameters  $\bar{D}$  of the VMWBM and  
BDH sphalerite particles are each about  $1,0 \mu\text{m}$ .  
(Romankiw took scanning electron microscope photographs  
of synthetic sphalerite with a specific surface area  
of about  $500,0 \text{ m}^2/\text{kg}$  and estimated the mean particle  
diameter to be about  $0,15 \mu\text{m}$ ).

Curve 'f' on figure 3.21 represents the best  
fit through the data points, and it is evident that  
 $\lambda(\bar{D})$  decreases with decreasing  $\bar{D}$ . No explanation  
for this phenomenon is offered at this stage, and this  
aspect will be considered further in section 3.3.2  
when the shape of the  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  versus  $\bar{D}$  curves of the  
different sphalerites are compared.

### 3.3.1.2 ZCR AND VMZCR SPHALERITE RESULTS

From figure 3.19 the following observations  
are made :

— f Best fit curve

legend

Sphalerite	
x	WBM
+	VMWBM
o	BDH

Note:  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  values calculated using  $k_{1,8}$  and  $(k_{1,8})_{ref}$  values off fig. 3.18

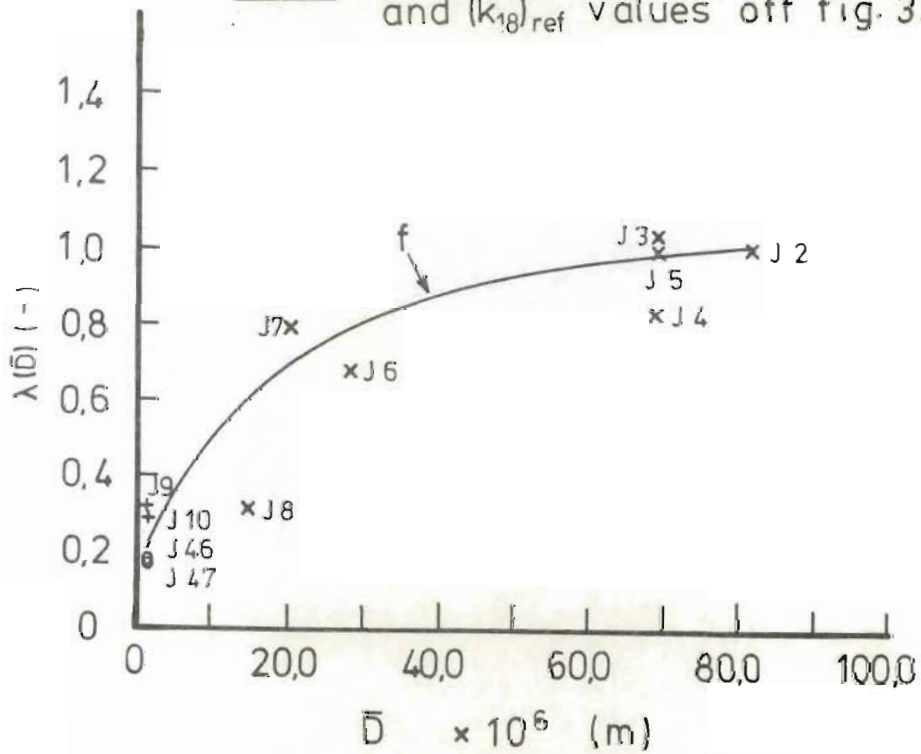


Figure 3.21 Mean diameter  $\bar{D}$  versus rate constant ratio  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  - (where  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  is defined by equation 3.45) for the WBM; VMWBM and BDH sphalerites.

- a) The line 'c' fits reasonably well through the rather limited  $-90,0 + 75,0\mu\text{m}$  and  $75,0 + 63,0\mu\text{m}$  size fraction data points. This suggests that over a narrow size range model H represented by equation 3.41 fits the ZCR sphalerite data. The line 'd' fits reasonably well through the  $-212,0\mu\text{m}$  fraction ZCR sphalerite, but at a consistently lower absolute value. The  $-212,0\mu\text{m}$  size fraction contains all the very fine material including possibly gangue, which has been removed from the courser size fractions (e.g.  $-90,0 + 75,0\mu\text{m}$ ).

A significant proportion of the specific surface area for the  $-212,0\mu\text{m}$  size fraction could therefore have been contributed by non-sphaleritic material, resulting in the observed lower values for the rate constant  $k_{18}$ .

- b) Figure 3.22 represents a plot of  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  versus  $\bar{D}$  for the ZCR and VMZCR sphalerites (where  $(k_{18})_{\text{ref}}$  represents values of the line 'c' on figure 3.19 at given values of  $\frac{1}{T}$ ). The data points are rather scattered. The best fit line demonstrates that  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  tends to decrease slightly as  $\bar{D}$  decreases. This aspect is discussed further in section 3.3.2.

— g Best fit curve.

legend  $\times$  | ZCR sphalerite  
 $+$  | VMZCR sphalerite

Note:  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  values calculated using  $k_{18}$  and  $(k_{18})_{ref}$  values off fig. 3.19

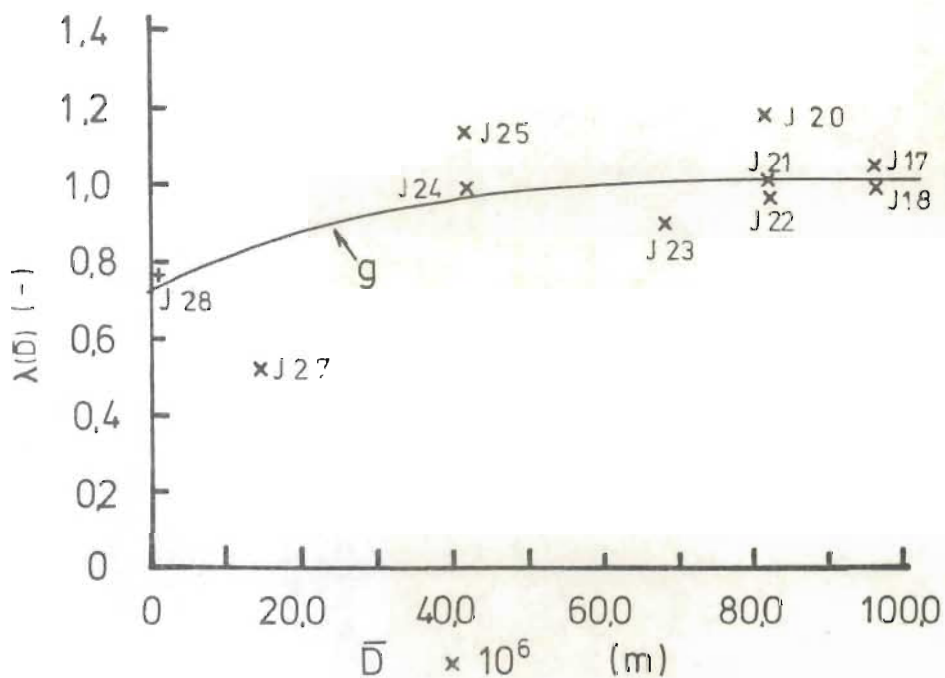


Figure 3.22 Mean diameter  $\bar{D}$  versus rate constant ratio  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  - (where  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  is defined by equation 3.45) for the ZCR and VMZCR sphalerite.



### 3.3.1.3 PR AND VMPR SPHALERITE RESULTS

From figure 3.20 it is observed that:

- a) The straight line 'e' fits the  $-90,0 + 75,0\mu\text{m}$  and  $-70,0 + 63,0\mu\text{m}$  size fraction data points reasonably well. This suggests that model H represented by equation 3.41 fits the PR initial rate sphalerite data.
- b) Figure 3.23 plots  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  versus  $\bar{D}$  for the PR and VMPR sphalerites. (It has been assumed that the mean particle diameter for the VMPR sphalerite is approximately  $1,0\mu\text{m}$ .)  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  is observed to increase with decreasing  $\bar{D}$  to a very large value for the VMPR sphalerite. This behaviour is remarkably different to that observed on figures 3.21 and 3.22 for the other sphalerites. This aspect is dealt with further, in the next section.

### 3.3.2 COMPARISON OF THE INITIAL RATE LEACHING BEHAVIOURS OF THE VARIOUS SPHALERITES

Figure 3.24 superimposes the best fit  $\log k_{18}$  versus  $\frac{1}{T}$  lines 'a' and 'b' (from figure 3.18), 'c' and 'd' (from figure 3.19) and 'e' (from figure 3.20) onto a common set of axes. Figure 3.25 superimposes the best fit  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  versus  $\bar{D}$  curves from figures 3.21, 3.22 and 3.23 onto a common set of axes.

———— h Best fit curve.

legend	x	PR sphalerite
	+	VMPR sphalerite

Note  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  values calculated using  $k_{18}$  and  $(k_{18})_{ref}$  values off fig. 3.20.

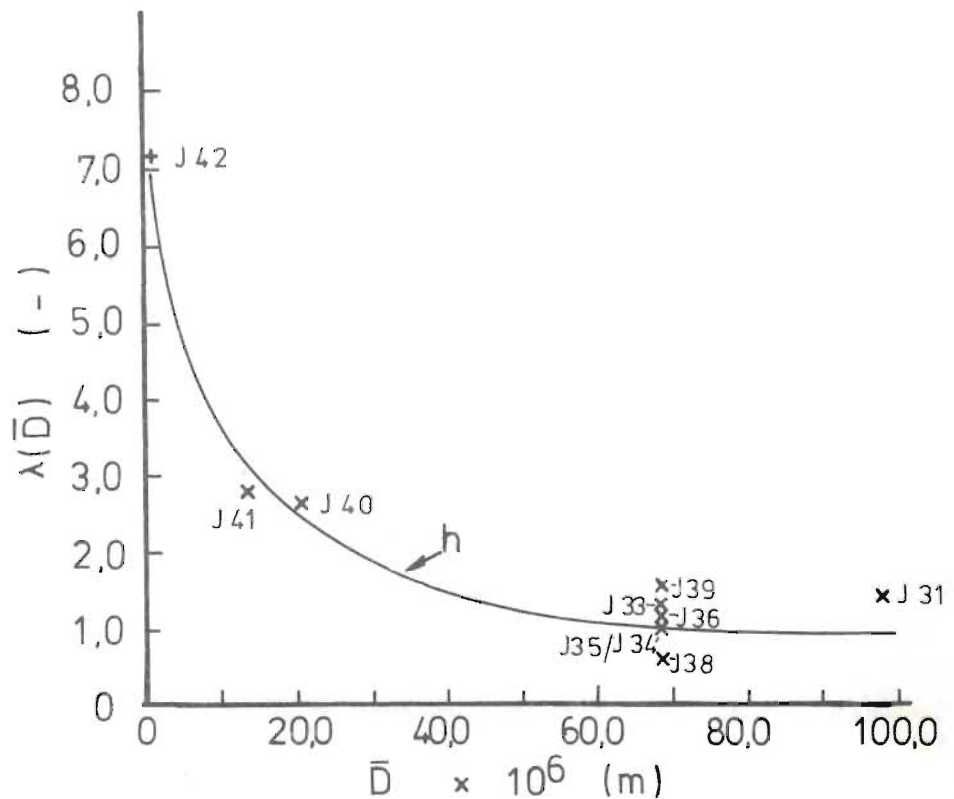


Figure 3.23 Mean diameter  $\bar{D}$  versus rate constant ratio  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  - (where  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  is defined by equation 3.45) for the PR and VMPR sphalerites.

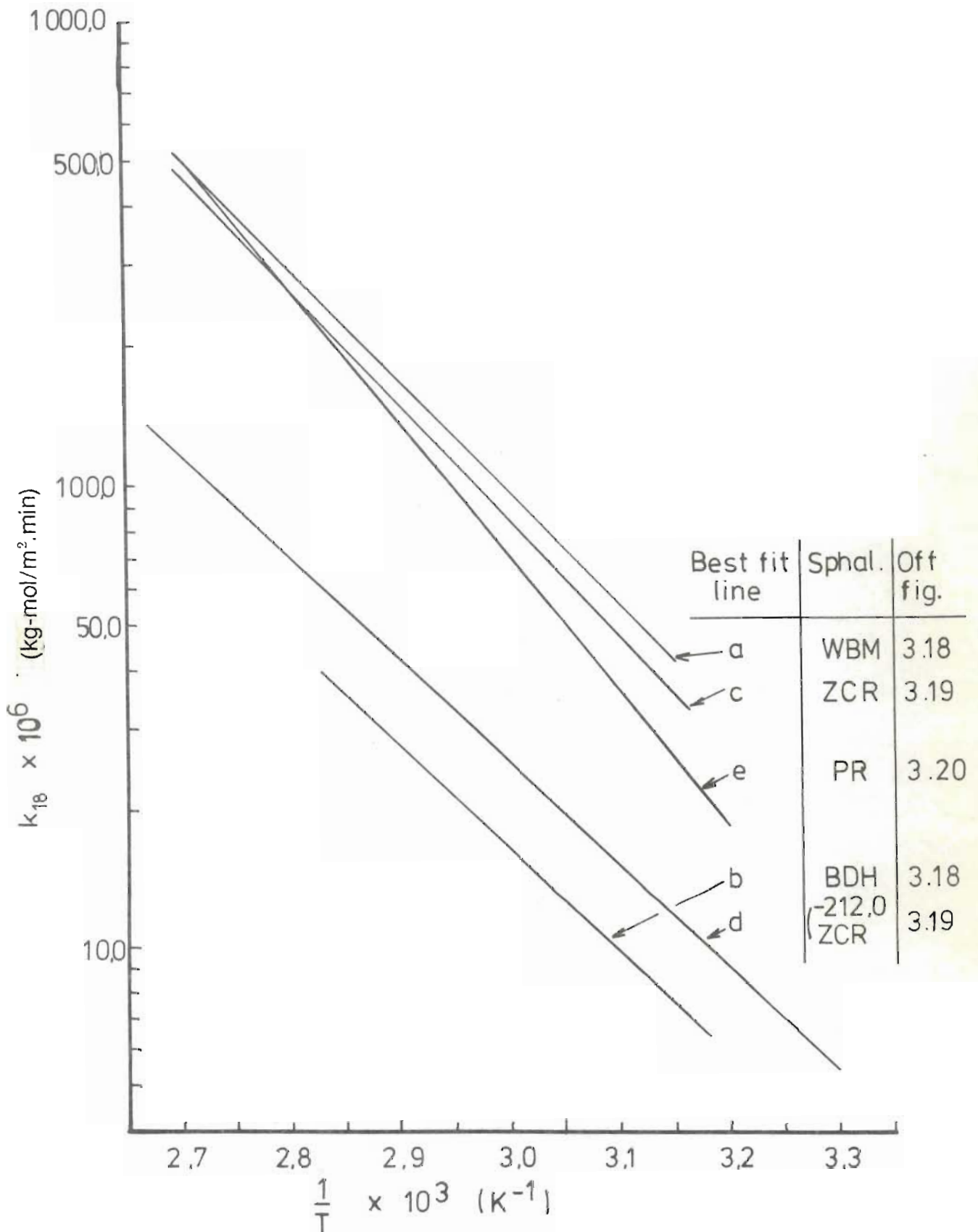


Figure 3.24 Comparison of best fit Arrhenius plots presented on figures 3.18 (WBM and BDH); 3.19 (ZCR) and 3.20 (PR).

legend	Best fit curve	Off fig.	Sphalerites
	f	3.21	WBM; VMWBM; BDH
	g	3.22	ZCR; VMZCR
	h	3.23	PR; VMPR

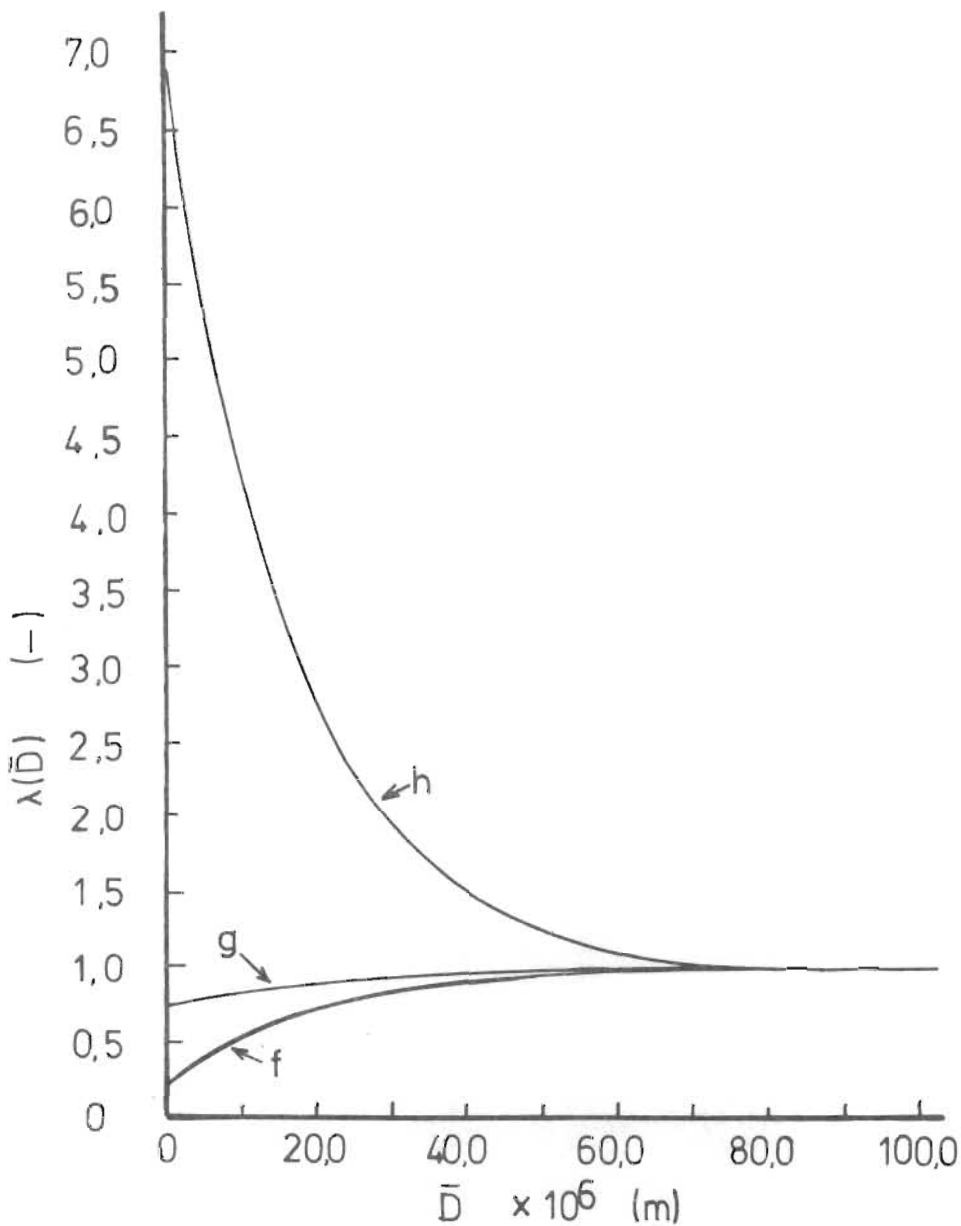


Figure 3.25 Comparison of best fit  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  versus  $(\bar{D})$  curves of figures 3.21; 3.22 and 3.23

Table 3.15 summarises the pre-exponential constants and apparent activation energies represented by the best fit lines on figures 3.18, 3.19 and 3.20 for the different sphalerites.

Table 3.16 summarises the  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  values for the BDH, VMWBM, VMZCR and VMPR sphalerites, along with the concentrations of the major impurities in these sphalerites (copper and iron).

From figures 3.23 and 3.24 and from tables 3.16 and 3.17 the following observations may be made :

- a) The leaching rate constant  $k_{18}$  for the  $-90,0 + 75,0\mu\text{m}$  and  $-75,0 + 63,0\mu\text{m}$  size fractions of the WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites are virtually identical (see figure 3.23). This observation is in agreement with that made by Kuzminkh (1950) (i.e. that two mineralogically completely different sphalerites initially leached identically under comparable conditions in acidic ferric sulphate media). This observation also appears to justify the assumption made in developing model H that the initial leaching rate is  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  adsorption rate controlling in a way which is independent of the chemical composition of the sphalerite.
- b) From table 3.15 it is apparent that except for the  $-212,0\mu\text{m}$  ZCR sphalerite the activation energies for the sphalerites increase

Spha- lerite  (-)	$E_a$ $\times 10^{-6}$  (J/kg- mole)	$A_E$ $\times 10^6$	Best fit line  (-)	Best fit line from fig. (-)	Copper Concen- tration  (-)	Iron Concen- tration  (-)
BDH	45,38	0,218	b	3.18	129,0 ppm	0,12%
WBM	45,62	1,32	a	3.18	382,0 ppm	0,45%
ZCR	48,33	3,11	c	3.19	155,0 ppm	7,25%
PR	59,93	183,7	e	3.20	3,53 %	10,74 %
-212,0 ZCR	42,92	0,135	d	3.19	N. D.	N. D.

T A B L E 3. 15

SUMMARY OF ACTIVATION ENERGIES  $E_a$   
AND PRE - EXPONENTIAL CONSTANTS  $A_E$   
FOR THE INDICATED BEST FIT LINES  
FOR LEACHING VARIOUS SPHALERITES  
UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS  
(  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \geq 1,8$  ).  
CONCENTRATIONS OF MAJOR IMPURITIES  
(COPPER AND IRON) ARE ALSO  
SUMMARISED



Sphalerite ( - )	Cu (-)	Fe (-)	$\lambda(\bar{D})$ ( - )
BDH	129,0 ppm	0,12%	0,19
VMWBM	382,0 ppm	0,45%	0,3
VMZCR	155,0 ppm	7,25%	0,75
VMPR	3,53%	10,74%	7,2

T A B L E 3. 16

SUMMARY OF CONCENTRATIONSOF MAJOR IMPURITIES( Cu and Fe ) and  $\lambda(\bar{D})$ FOR THE INDICATED SPHALERITES

N. B.  $\lambda(\bar{D}) = \frac{k_{18}}{(k_{18})_{ref}}$  defined by equation 3.45.

with increasing degree of impurity of the sphalerite - i.e.  $BDH < WBM < ZCR < PR$  .

- c) From figure 3.24 it is evident that increasing the surface area of the various sphalerites by ball milling or vibratory milling, influences the leaching rate constants  $k_{18}$  for each sphalerite in unpredictable manners.

For the relatively pure WBM and VMWBM sphalerites decreasing  $\bar{D}$  appears to decrease  $k_{18}$  significantly. For the moderately impure ZCR and VMZCR sphalerites, decreasing  $\bar{D}$  decreases  $k_{18}$  only slightly. For the highly impure PR and VMPR sphalerites, decreasing  $\bar{D}$  increases  $k_{18}$  significantly.

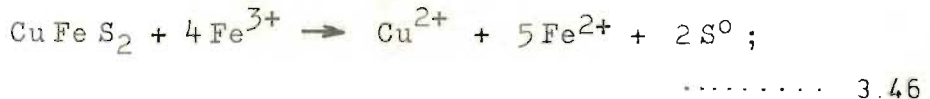
From table 3.16 it is seen that  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  hence leaching rate constants  $k_{18}$  for the BDH, VMWBM, VMZCR and VMPR sphalerites increase with increasing impurity content of the sphalerite, - i.e.  $BDH < VMWBM < VMZCR < VMPR$  . It appears then that vibratory milling does not cause the WBM or ZCR sphalerites to become 'activated' with respect to leaching in acidic ferric sulphate media.

The fact that the VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites demonstrate virtually identical leaching characteristics in aqueous  $H_2SO_4$ , is additional evidence that these sphalerites are not activated. The VMZCR sphalerite contained a much higher concentration of iron than the VMWBM sphalerite, but this did not appear to significantly influence its leaching characteristics.

Although  $\lambda(\bar{D})$  (hence  $k_{18}$ ) for the PR and VMPR sphalerites increases significantly with decreasing  $\bar{D}$ , the increase does not appear to depend on the mode of milling. It is possible that the increase in dissolution rate per unit area is related to the liberation and grinding of the chalcopyrite impurity.

Figure 6.17 presents a photomicrograph of etched PR particles. This figure and the observation of other polished sections of leached PR particles showed that dissolution occurred preferentially in the vicinity of the occluded chalcopyrite zones. It is possible that -

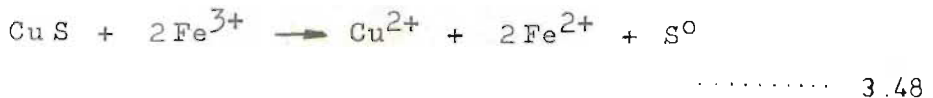
a) the chalcopyrite dissolves -



b) the  $\text{CuSO}_4$  acts as a catalyst to accelerate the sphalerite dissolution:-



c) the  $\text{CuS}$  dissolves and regenerates the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  ion :-



Accordingly the more finely dispersed the chalcopyrite is, the greater the catalytic effect on the dissolution of the sphalerite.

It is evident from the above that the large increase in  $k_{18}$  associated with fine milling of the PR sphalerite is not due to an activation of

the sphalerite crystal lattice. It is also evident that fine milling of the WBM and ZCR sphalerites does not result in any apparant activation, or increase in  $k_{18}$  taking place.

C H A P T E R      4

TESTING OF OVERALL CASE (i)  
AND CASE (ii) RATE EQUATIONS

Introduction

In chapters 2 and 3 it was assumed that under initial rate conditions the initial active site concentration  $\phi_0$  was proportional to the total specific surface area of the sphalerite solids (equation 2.1). In this chapter the way in which the active site concentration  $\phi(X)$  changes during leaching under non-initial conditions is investigated.

It is assumed that the active site area change function  $\phi(X)$  could possess one of the following forms :

- 1)  $\phi(X)$  remains constant, i.e. :-

$$\psi_1(X) = \frac{\phi(X)}{\phi_0} = 1,0 \dots\dots 4.1$$

where  $\psi(X)$  = Active site area ratio function.

- 2)  $\phi(X)$  obeys shrinking core behaviour, i.e. :-

$$\psi_2 (X) = \frac{\phi(X)}{\phi_0} = (1 - X)^{2/3} \dots\dots\dots 4. 2$$

3)  $\phi(X)$  varies in proportion to the B.E.T. measured specific surface area, i.e. :-

$$\psi_3 (X) = \frac{\phi(X)}{\phi_0} = \eta(X) \dots\dots\dots 4. 3$$

where  $\eta(X)$  = specific area change function (as defined by eqn. F 4).

The form of  $\eta(X)$  for each sphalerite was experimentally determined by measuring the specific surface area before and after leaching to various extents X. A Ströhlein area meter was used to perform single point B.E.T. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption measurements, and details concerning the apparatus, procedure and  $\eta(X)$  determined for each sphalerite is presented in Appendix F.

4)  $\phi(X)$  varies during leaching in a way which is uniquely characteristic for each sphalerite, i.e. :-

$$\psi_4 (X) = \frac{\phi(X)}{\phi_0} \dots\dots\dots 4. 4$$

where -

a) for the case (i) model F based on H<sup>+</sup> adsorption rate control (equation 2.81):-

$$\phi(X) = r_F \frac{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{22} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{23} [H_2S]_l)}{(k_{11} [H^+] - k_{13} [Zn^{2+}]^{0.5} [H_2S]^{0.5})} \dots\dots\dots 4. 5$$



- b) For the case (i) model G based on product desorption rate control (equation 2.89) :-

$$\phi(X) = r_G \left( \frac{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{22} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{23} [H_2S])^2}{(k_{16} [H^+]^2 - k_{15} [Zn^{2+}] [H_2S])} \right)^{0,5} \dots\dots\dots 4.6$$

The value of the reverse rate constants  $k_{13}$  or  $k_{15}$  in equations 4.5 and 4.6 may be established using a regression technique.

- c) For the case (ii) model H (equation 2.95) :-

$$\phi(X) = \frac{r_H}{k_{18}} \cdot \frac{[H^+]}{[Fe^{3+}]} \dots\dots 4.7$$

In this case the value of  $k_{18}$  was established in chapter 3 under initial rate conditions,  $r_H$  is measured directly from the rate curve and  $[Fe^{3+}]$  or  $[H^+]$  can be determined analytically or calculated by stoichiometry.

$\phi(X)$  can most readily be calculated for case(ii) data using equation 4.7 in which all values are known. This is done in section 4.1 using VMWBM and WBM sphalerite results as examples, and the  $\psi_4(X)$  established for these sphalerite leached under case (ii) conditions are compared with  $\psi_1(X)$ ,  $\psi_2(X)$  and  $\psi_3(X)$  described by equations 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 respectively.

In section 4.2  $\phi(X)$  and the reverse reaction

rate constant  $k_{13}$  are determined using the VMWBM sphalerite case (i) leaching data as an example. The  $\phi(X)$  determined for leaching this sphalerite in  $H_2SO_4$  (with  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 0,0$ ) will be compared with the  $\phi(X)$  determined for the sphalerites leaching under case (ii) conditions (i.e. -  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \approx 1,8$ ).

In sections 4.3 <sup>to 4.6</sup>  $\psi_4(X)$  will be determined for the other types of sphalerite using mainly case (ii) experimental rate results.

#### 4. 1 DETERMINATION OF $\psi_4(X)$ FOR THE VMWBM AND WBM SPHALERITE LEACHING UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

Equation 4.7 was used to calculate  $\phi(X)$  for VMWBM and WBM sphalerite leaching in acidic ferric sulphate media. Values of the rate constant  $k_{18}$  are summarised on table 3.11. Values for the rate of leaching ( $r_H = \frac{d[Zn^{2+}]}{dt}$ ) at various extents of reaction  $X$  were obtained by measuring the slopes of tangents drawn on the rate curve.  $[H^+]$  was analytically determined and was experimentally observed to remain constant.

$[Fe^{3+}]$  was calculated as follows :

$$[Fe^{3+}] = [Fe^{3+}]_0 - 2,0 \times [Zn^{2+}] \quad \dots\dots\dots 4. 8$$

where  $[Fe^{3+}]_0$  and  $[Zn^{2+}]$  were determined analytically.

Tables 4.1 and 4.2 summarise the measured and calculated results for experimental VMWBM and WBM sphalerite leaching runs.

Figure 4.1 plots  $\psi_1(X)$ ,  $\psi_2(X)$ ,  $\psi_3(X)$  and  $\psi_4(X)$  versus extent of reaction  $X$ . It is observed that  $\psi_4(X)$  calculated according to equation 4.7 for model H decreases far more rapidly than any of the other  $\psi(X)$  functions and is virtually identical for both the VMWBM and the WBM sphalerites. This phenomenon could be the result of one or more of the following:

- a) Model H does not correctly predict the VMWBM or WBM sphalerite leaching behaviour under non-initial case (ii) conditions.
- b) Elemental sulphur which forms on the sphalerite surface blinds the active sites and results in a faster decrease in the leaching rate  $r_H$  than would occur if  $S^0$  blinding did not occur.
- c) The active site area does actually decrease far more rapidly than predicted by the shrinking core model  $\psi_2(X)$  or the B.E.T. area change function  $\psi_3(X)$ .

The following purely empirical function is also plotted on figure 4.1 -

$$\psi_4(X) = 1,0 - \frac{1,065}{\left(\frac{0,065}{X} + 1,0\right)}$$

$[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $\text{m}^3$ )	X (-)	$(r_{\text{H}})_{\text{exp}}$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ min $\text{m}^3$ )	$[\text{Fe}^{3+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $\text{m}^3$ )	$\Phi(X)$ - ( $\text{m}^2/\text{kg}$ )	$\psi_4(X)$ (-)
0	0	2,1	0,1504	65,45	1,0
5,0	0,025	1,75	0,1404	58,43	0,893
10,0	0,049	1,20	0,1304	43,14	0,659
15,0	0,073	0,532	0,1204	20,71	0,316
30,0	0,147	0,338	0,0904	17,53	0,268

NOTE :-  $k_{18} = 10,88 \times 10^{-6}$  (kg-mol/min  $\text{m}^2 \text{m}^3$ )

$[\text{H}^+] = 0,051$  (kg-mol/ $\text{m}^3$ )

Temp = 318.0 (K)

T A B L E 4. 1 a

DETERMINATION OF  $\psi_4(X)$

FOR VMWBM SPHALERITE LEACHING

RESULTS REPORTED IN TABLE J 9

$[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $\text{m}^3$ )	X (-)	$(r_{\text{H}})_{\text{exp}}$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ min $\text{m}^3$ )	$[\text{Fe}^{3+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $\text{m}^3$ )	$\phi(X)$ ( $\text{m}^2/\text{kg}$ )	$\psi_4(X)$ (-)
0	0	6,9	0,3044	65,62	1,00
20,0	0,098	3,24	0,2644	35,46	0,541
30,0	0,147	1,49	0,244	17,68	0,269
40,0	0,196	0,70	0,244	9,04	0,138
50,0	0,246	0,41	0,2044	5,81	0,088

NOTE :-  $k_{18} = 25,46 \times 10^{-6}$  (kg-mol/ $\text{m}^2$ .min)  
 $[\text{H}^+]_0 = 0,0737$  (kg-mol/ $\text{m}^3$ )  
Temp = 338,0 (K)

T A B L E 4. 1 b

DETERMINATION OF  $\psi_4(X)$   
FOR VMWBM SPHALERITE LEACHING  
RESULTS REPORTED IN TABLE J 10

$[Zn^{2+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	$X$  (-)	$(r_H)_{exp}$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3 \text{ min}$ )	$[Fe^{3+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	$\phi(X)$  ( $m^2/kg$ )	$\psi_4(X)$  (-)
0	0	12,5	1,504	8,0	1,0
50,0	0,049	4,94	1,404	3,39	0,423
150,0	0,147	2,92	1,204	2,33	0,292
200,0	0,197	2,44	1,104	2,13	0,166
250,0	0,246	2,10	1,004	2,01	0,252
300,0	0,3	1,50	0,904	1,60	0,20
350,0	0,344	0,96	0,804	1,15	0,144
400,0	0,393	0,63	0,704	0,86	0,108

NOTE :-  $k_{18} = 582,8 \times 10^{-6}$  (kg-mol/ $m^2 \cdot \text{min}$ )

$[H^+]_0 = \frac{0,561}{(\text{kg-mol}/m^3)}$  Temp = 368,0 (K)

Size fraction =  $-75,0 + 63,0 \mu m$

T A B L E      4. 2 a

DETERMINATION OF  $\psi_4(X)$

FOR WBM SPHALERITE LEACHING

RESULTS REPORTED IN TABLE J 5



$[Zn^{2+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	X  (-)	$(r_H)_{exp}$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3 \text{ min}$ )	$[Fe^{3+}]$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol/ $m^3$ )	$\phi(X)$  ( $m^2/kg$ )	$\psi_4(X)$  (-)
0	0	4,29	0,793	8,0	1,0
30,0	0,029	2,63	0,735	5,25	0,66
60,0	0,059	1,34	0,675	2,91	0,37
85,0	0,083	1,08	0,625	2,53	0,32
110,0	0,108	0,91	0,575	2,32	0,29

NOTE :-  $k_{18} = 201,0 \times 10^{-6}$  (kg-mol/ $m^2 \cdot \text{min}$ )

$[H^+]_0 = 0,295$  Temp = 355,5 (K)  
(kg-mol/ $m^3$ )

Size fraction = -75,0 + 63,0  $\mu\text{m}$

T A B L E 4. 2 b     DETERMINATION OF  $\psi_4(X)$  FOR WBM  
SPHALERITE LEACHING RESULTS  
REPORTED IN TABLE J 4

	Calc. using eqn.
$\psi_1(X)$	4.1
$\psi_2(X)$	4.2
$\psi_3(X)$	4.3 and F.7 with $\alpha=0,25$
$\psi_4(X)$	4.9

legend	Sphal.	Table reporting calc. $\psi_4(X)$ values	Leaching data on table
○	WBM	4.1a	J 4
×	WBM	4.1b	J 5
□	VMWBM	4.2a	J 9
⊕	VMWBM	4.2b	J 10

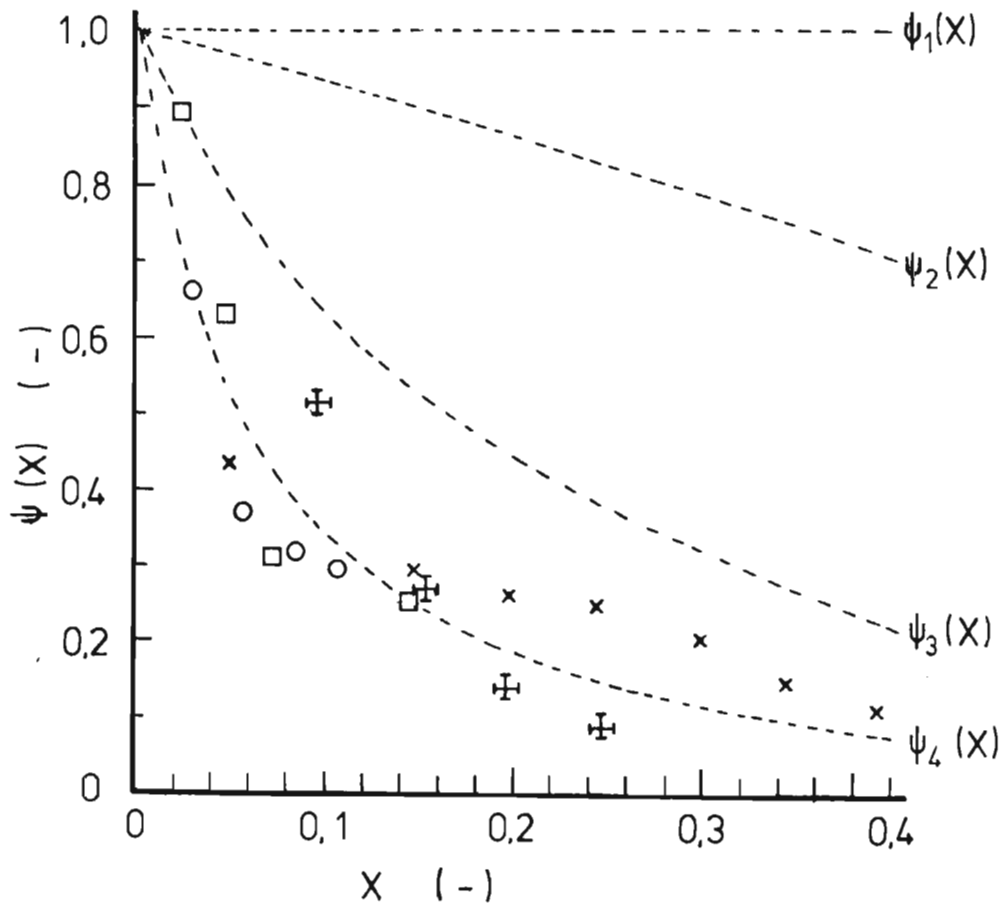


Figure 4.1 Comparison of active site area ratio functions  $\psi_1(X)$ ;  $\psi_2(X)$ ;  $\psi_3(X)$  and  $\psi_4(X)$  with  $\psi_4(X)$  values calculated for WBM and VMWBM sphalerites leaching under case (ii) conditions. Values were calculated using eqns. 4.4 and 4.7.

It is observed that equation 4.9 fits the shape of the  $\psi_4(X)$  versus X data points reasonably well.

4. 2 DETERMINATION OF  $\psi_4(X)$  FOR VMWBM SPHALERITE LEACHING UNDER CASE (i) CONDITIONS

Equation 4.5 is used (along with values for the constants  $K_{11}$ ,  $K_{22}$ ,  $K_{23}$  and  $k_{11}$  which are summarised in table 3.10) to calculate  $\phi(X)$  for the VMWBM sphalerite leaching under case (i) conditions. However,  $k_{13}$  is also an unknown, and thus  $\phi(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  are simultaneously determined as follows:-

- a) For a given experiment and at different extents of reaction X, the leaching rates  $r_F$  are measured directly off the rate curve and the corresponding  $[Zn^{2+}]$ ,  $[H_2S]_l$  and  $[H^+]$  values are calculated.
- b) At each value of X,  $\phi(X)$  and  $\psi_4(X) = \frac{\phi(X)}{\phi_0}$  are calculated using several values of  $k_{13}$  in equation 4.5.
- c) Procedures a) and b) are repeated for other experiments conducted under different initial temperature, sphalerite mass or  $[H^+]_0$  conditions.
- d) The calculated  $\psi_4(X)$  values at the given X values for at least two runs are plotted against the  $k_{13}$  values. The intercept of

the best fit curves through the  $\psi(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  points at each value of  $X$  for each run represents a valid solution to equation 4.5.

The above procedure is now demonstrated using an example.

Table 4.3 presents values of  $\phi(X)$  and  $\psi_4(X)$  calculated at various  $X$  values for the experimental runs reported in tables I 2 ( $[H^+]_0 = 1,0 \text{ (kg-mol/m}^3\text{)}$ ) and I 8 ( $[H^+]_0 = 0,5 \text{ (kg-mol/m}^3\text{)}$ ). All other conditions for these two runs are identical. Figure 4.2 plots the  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $k_{13}$  values presented on table 4.3.

Figure 4.3 plots  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $k_{13}$  for two runs conducted at two different temperatures (i.e. -  $T = 318,0 \text{ K}$ , (table I 2) and  $T = 338,0 \text{ K}$ , (table I 5)) with all other conditions constant.

Figure 4.4 plots  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $k_{13}$  for two runs conducted at two different initial masses of sphalerite (i.e.  $M_0 = 0,005 \text{ kg}$  (table I 1) and  $M_0 = 0,01 \text{ kg}$  (table I 2)), with all other conditions constant.

It is observed on each of the figures 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4 that the intercepts of the  $\psi(X)$  versus  $k_{13}$  curves at the different values of  $X$  do not fall on a constant value of  $k_{13}$ . This suggests that  $k_{13}$  itself may be a function of  $X$ .

Figure 4.5 summarises the  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  and figure 4.6 summarises the  $k_{13}$  versus  $X$  values at

$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )		0,5		1,0	
TABLE (-)		I 2		I 8	
X (-)	$k_{13}$	$\phi(X)$ (m <sup>2</sup> /kg)	$\psi_4(X)$ (-)	$\phi(X)$ (m <sup>2</sup> /kg)	$\psi_4(X)$ (-)
0,01	0,01	25,55	0,781	28,57	0,873
	0,015	26,24	0,8	28,94	0,884
	0,02	26,96	0,824	29,31	0,896
	0,025	27,73	0,847	29,70	0,908
	0,03	28,55	0,873	30,09	0,92
	0,035	29,41	0,9	30,50	0,932
	0,04	30,32	0,927	30,92	0,945
	0,045	31,30	0,957	31,35	0,958
0,02	0,01	21,16	0,647	24,61	0,752
	0,015	22,40	0,684	25,27	0,772
	0,02	23,81	0,728	25,97	0,794
	0,025	25,4	0,776	26,70	0,816
	0,03	27,21	0,832	27,48	0,84
	0,035	29,31	0,896	28,30	0,865
0,04	0,01	12,19	0,37	16,64	0,509
	0,015	13,96	0,427	17,61	0,538
	0,02	16,32	0,50	18,70	0,571
	0,025	19,64	0,6	19,94	0,609
	0,03	24,65	0,753	21,35	0,652
	0,035	33,12	1,012	22,97	0,702
0,06	0,01	3,982	0,122	8,437	0,258
	0,015	5,088	0,155	9,252	0,283
	0,02	7,046	0,215	10,13	0,31
	0,025	11,45	0,35	11,35	0,347
	0,03	30,58	0,935	12,89	0,40
	0,035	45,66	1,40	15,07	0,461

T A B L E 4. 3

SAMPLE CALCULATIONS FOR DETERMINING

 $\phi(X)$  AND  $k_{13}$  OF EQUATION 4. 5 AT DIFFERENT VALUESOF X.  $\psi_4(X) = \frac{\phi(X)}{\phi_0}$  VALUES IN THIS TABLE AREPLOTTED VERSUS  $k_{13}$  ON FIGURE 42

- Lines indicating  $\psi_4(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  solutions at given values of  $X$ .
- Best fit curves through points

Conditions	Temp.	(K)	318,0
	Mass	(kg)	0,01
	Stirrer	(rpm)	800,0

legend		$[H_2SO_4]_0$	Leaching data reported on table
	o	1,0	I 2
	x	0,5	I 8

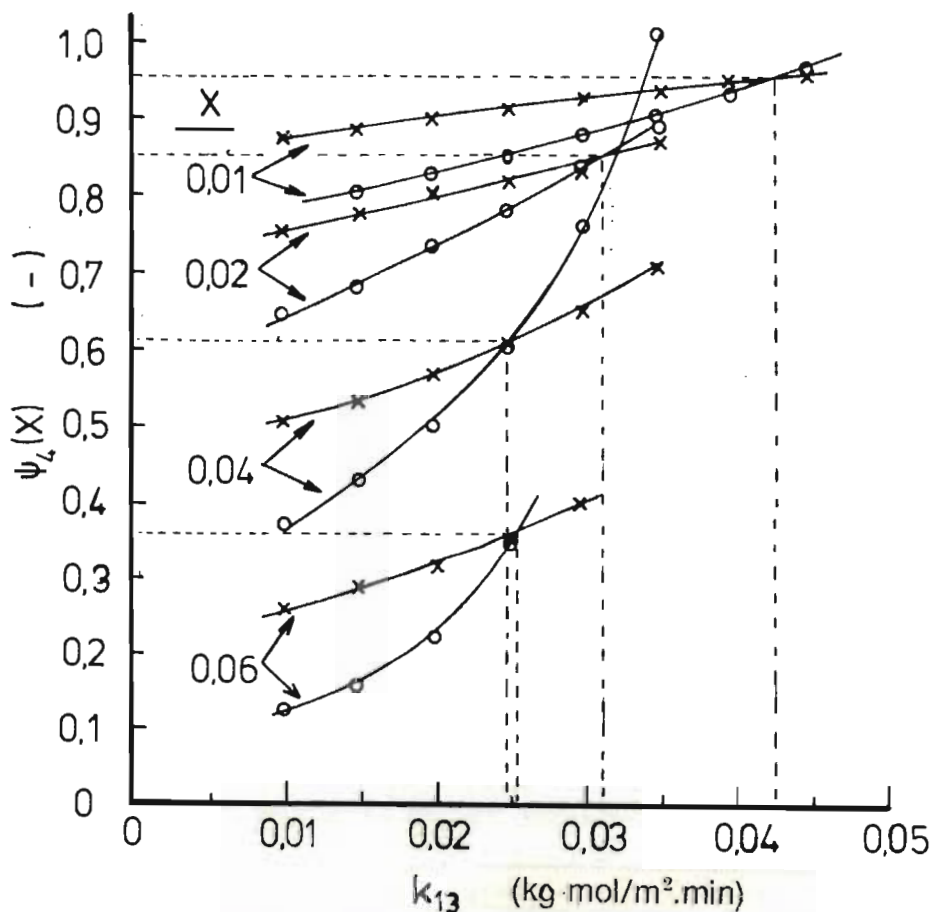


Figure 4.2 Example of graphically determining  $\psi_4(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  solutions to equation 4.5 for VMWBM sphalerite leaching under case(i) conditions at two different  $[H^+]_0$  values. All values plotted are presented on table 4.3

- Lines indicating  $\psi_4(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  solutions at given values of  $X$ .
- Best fit curves through points.

	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Conditions	Mass	(kg)	0,01
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

	Temp. (K)	Leaching data reported in tables
legend	o	I 5
	x	I 2

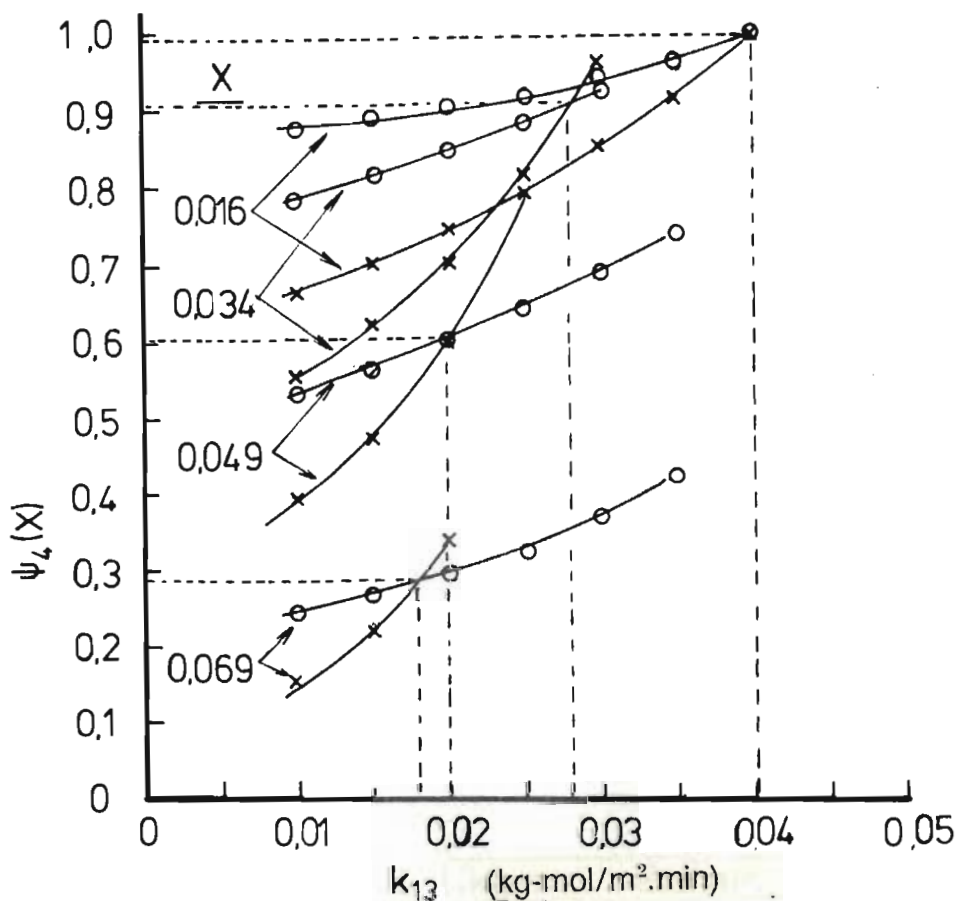


Figure 4.3 Example of graphically determining  $\psi_4(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  solutions to equation 4.5 for VMWBM sphalerite leaching under case(i) conditions at two different temperatures.



----- Lines indicating  $\psi_4(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  solutions at given values of  $X$ .

———— Best fit through points.

Conditions	Temp. (K)	318,0
	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
	Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0

legend	$(M)_0$ (kg)	Leaching data reported on table
o	0,005	I 1
x	0,01	I 2

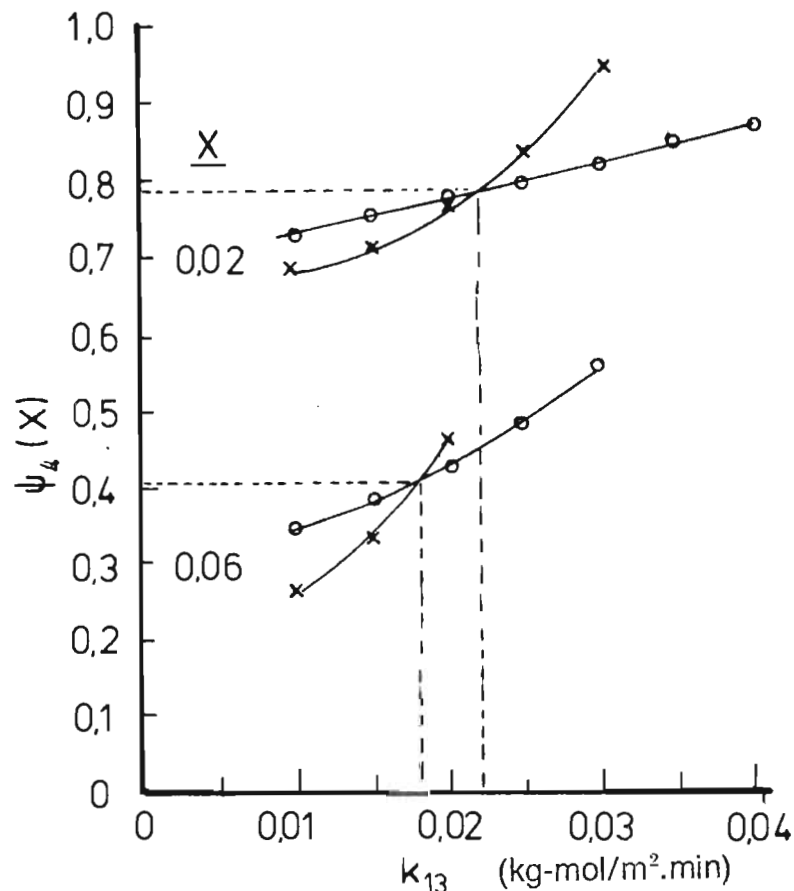


Figure 4.4 Example of graphically determining  $\psi_4(X)$  and  $k_{13}$  solutions to eqn. 4.5 for VMWBM leaching under case (i) conditions with two different masses of sphalerite initially present.

	Calc. using eqn.
$\psi_1(X)$	4.1
$\psi_2(X)$	4.2
$\psi_3(X)$	4.3 and F.7 with $\alpha = 0,25$
$\psi_4(X)$	4.9

legend	From figure	Variable
○	4.2	$[H_2SO_4]_o$
x	4.3	Temp.
□	4.4	$M_o$

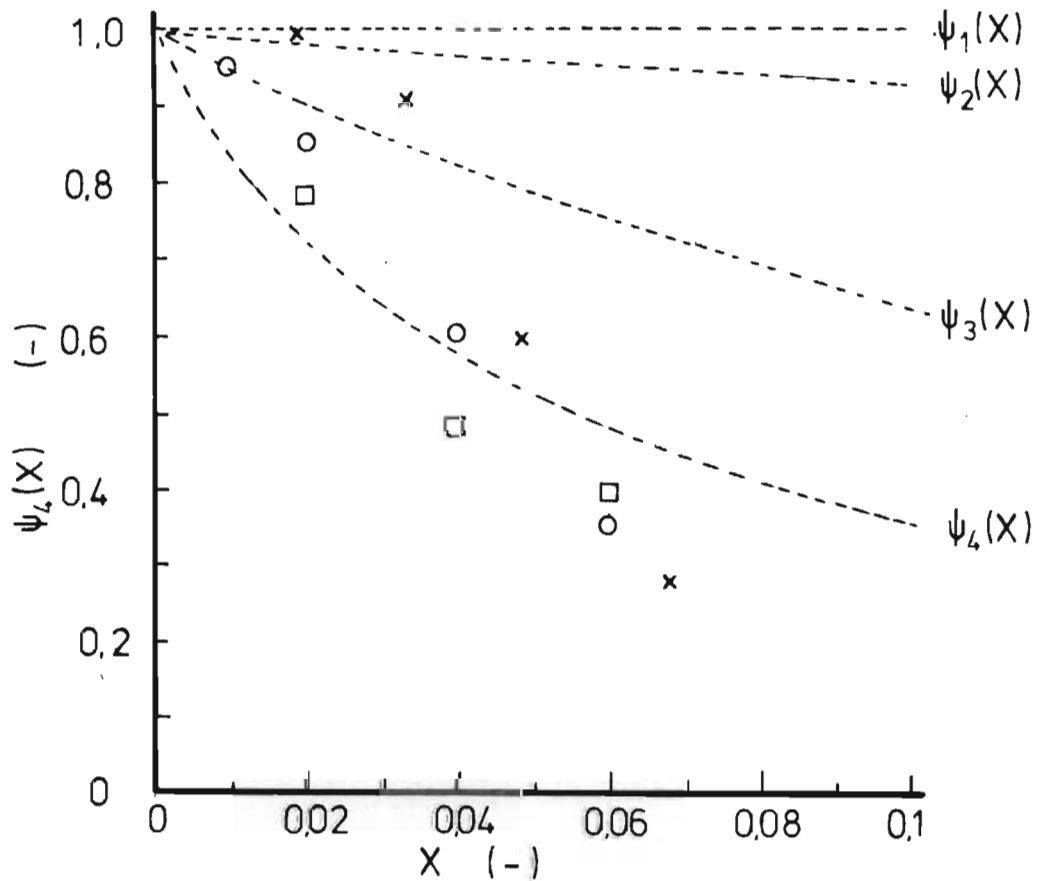


Figure 4.5 Summary of  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  solution values shown on figures 4.2;4.3and 4.4.

-----  
 Calculated using eqn. 4.10 with  $\Omega(X)$  defined by eqn. 4.11.

legend	From fig.	Variable
○	4.2	$[H_2SO_4]_0$
x	4.3	Temp.
□	4.4	$M_0$

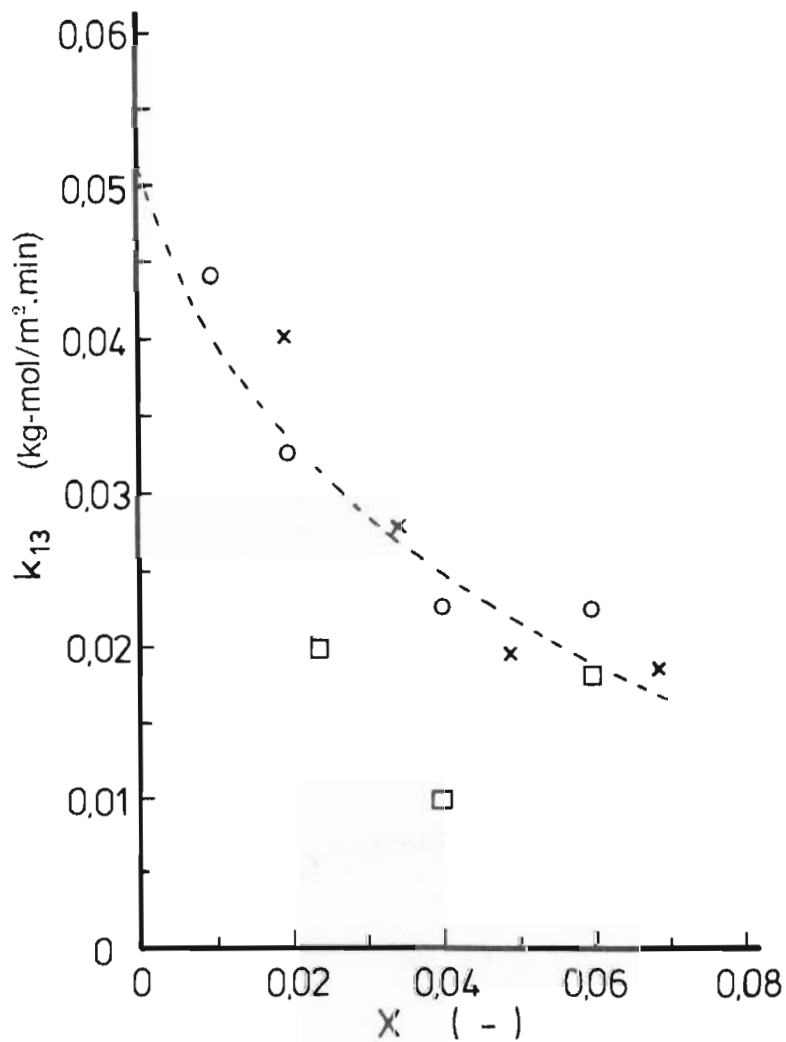


Figure 4.6 Summary of  $k_{13}$  versus X solution values shown on figures 4.2; 4.3 and 4.4

the points of interception of the curves on figures 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4.

It is observed on figure 4.5 that the  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  points lie close to the curve described by equation 4.9. Figure 4.7 superimposes all the case (i) and case (ii)  $\psi_4(X)$  data points presented on figures 4.5 and 4.1 respectively. Figure 4.7 also plots the function  $\psi_4(X)$  described equation 4.9 as well as  $\psi_1(X)$ ,  $\psi_2(X)$  and  $\psi_3(X)$ .

It is observed that generally both the case (i) and case (ii) data points lie scattered about the best fit  $\psi_4(X)$  curve. This is accepted as evidence that the rapid decrease in active site area is a real phenomenon, and not due to elemental sulphur blinding. This evidence is also accepted as proof that models F and H describe the kinetics of VMWBM sphalerite leaching under case (i) and case (ii) conditions over the range of variables investigated.

The results on figure 4.6 are accepted as evidence that for the VMWBM sphalerite the reverse rate constant  $k_{13}$  appearing in model F (equation 2.81) is a function of  $X$ . This suggests that as leaching progresses the residual area becomes less active. This idea is similar in concept to the variable activation energy model proposed by Brittan (1971) who proposed that in the copper segregation process the most active sites reacted first, so that the residual sites were progressively

	Calc. using eqn.
$\psi_1(X)$	4.1
$\psi_2(X)$	4.2
$\psi_3(X)$	4.3 and F.7 with $\alpha = 0,25$
$\psi_4(X)$	4.9

legend

- Case (i) data ( $[\text{Fe}^{3+}] = 0,0$ ) from fig 4.5
- × Case (ii) data ( $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \approx 1,8$ ) from fig 4.1.

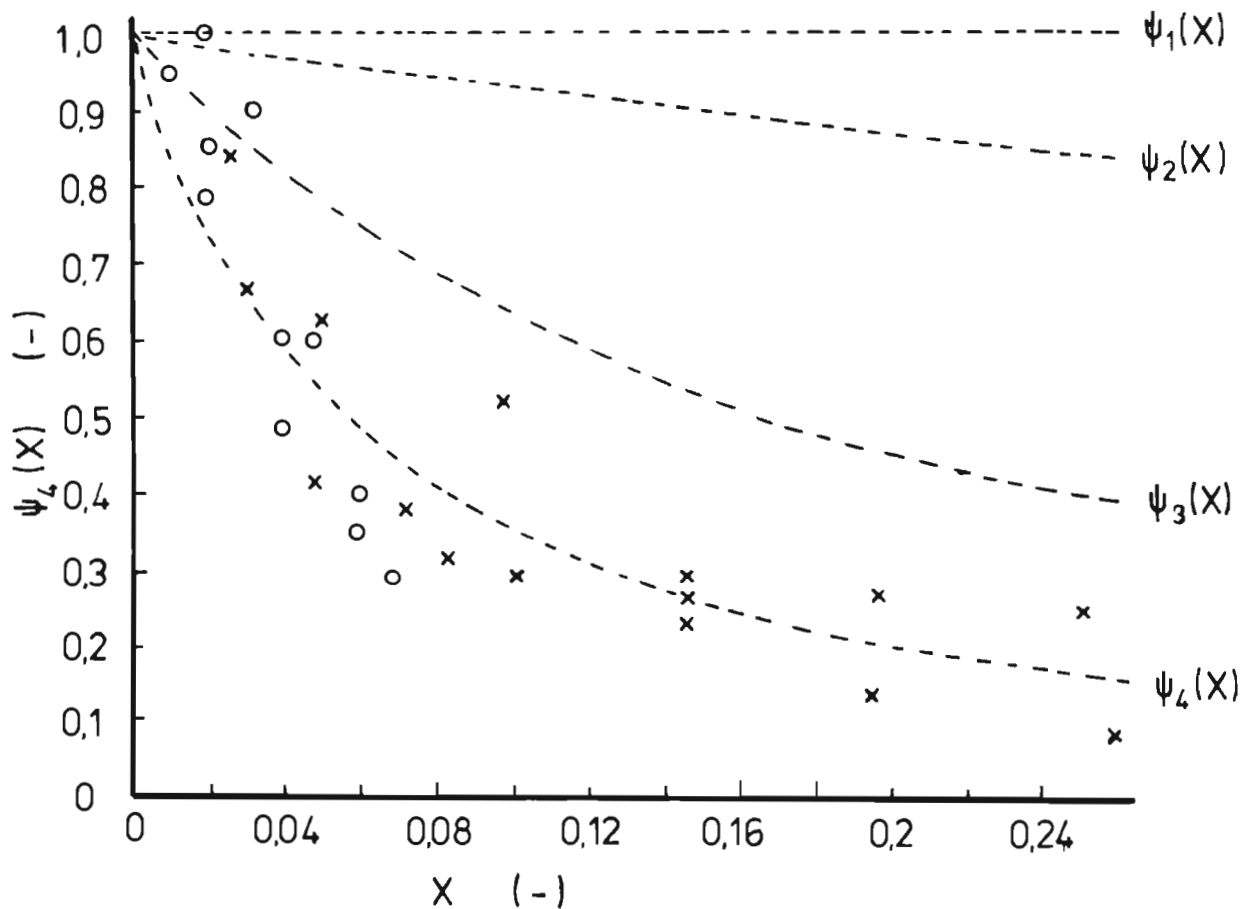


Figure 4.7 Comparison of all case (i)  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  data (from fig 4.5) with all case (ii)  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  data (from fig 4.1).

less active. However, for the leaching of VMWBM sphalerite, it is proposed that the activation energy of the reverse reaction is independent of X so that only the pre-exponential constant of the reverse reaction rate constant  $k_{13}$  varies with X. The effect of X on  $k_{13}$  is modelled as follows:

$$\text{Let } \Omega(X) = \frac{k_{13}}{(k_{13})_{X=0}} \dots\dots\dots 4. 10$$

where  $k_{13}$  = value of  $k_{13}$  at a given value of X;

$$(k_{13})_{X=0} = \text{value of } k_{13} \text{ at } X = 0 .$$

Now from figure 4.6  $(k_{13})_{X=0} = 0,051$ .

Figure 4.8 plots  $\Omega(X)$  versus X for all the  $k_{13}$  points established previously and the following empirical function is seen to fit the data reasonably well .

$$\Omega(X) = 1,0 - \frac{1,04}{\frac{0,04}{X} + 1,0} \dots\dots\dots 4. 11$$

Now assume that  $k_{13}$  can be described by an Arrhenius type relationship -

$$k_{13} = A_E \exp\left(\frac{-E_a}{RT}\right) \dots\dots\dots 4. 12$$

The activation energy  $E_a$  may be established if values of  $k_{13}$  at two temperatures are known.

From equation 2.81 -

$$k_{13} = \frac{k_{11} [H^+] - r_F}{[H_2S]^{0,5}} \frac{(1,0 + K_{11}[H^+] + K_{22} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{23}[H_2S])}{\phi(X) [Zn^{2+}]^{0,5}} \dots\dots\dots 4. 13$$

----- Calculated using eqn. 4.11.

legend    o     $\Omega(X) = k_{13} / (k_{13})_{X=0}$  ; where  $k_{13}$  values are plotted on fig 4.6 and  $(k_{13})_{X=0} = 0.051$

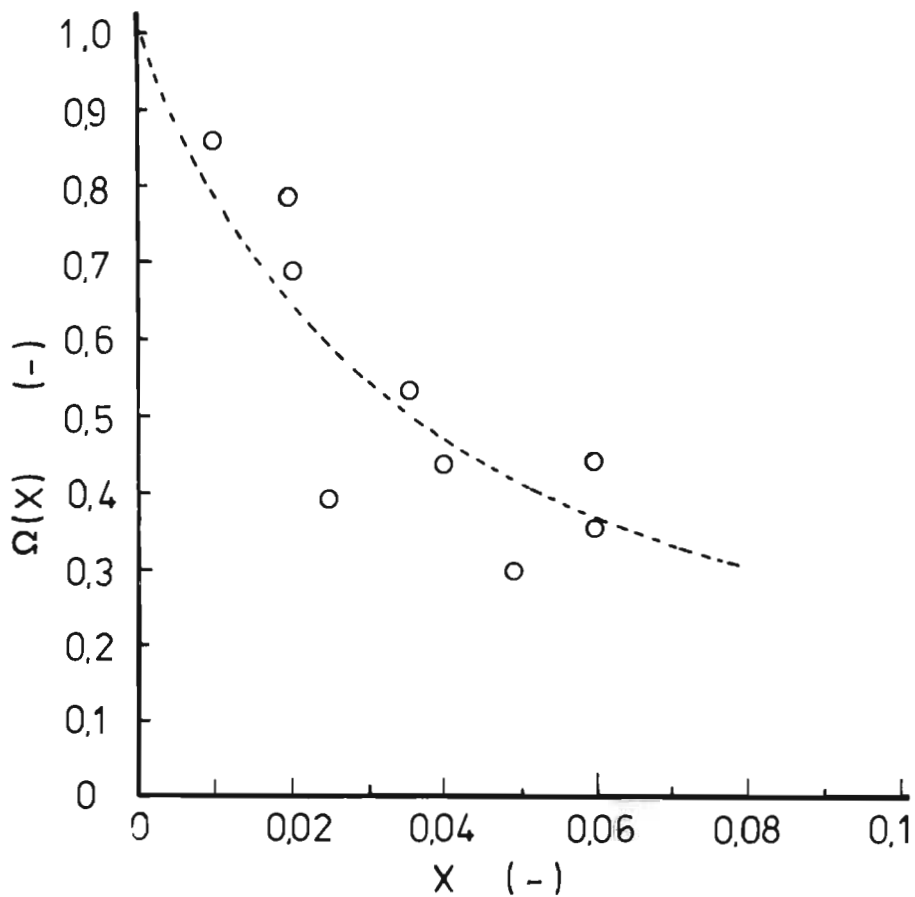


Figure 4.8 Reverse rate constant ratio  $\Omega(X)$  versus  $X$  for VMWBM sphalerite leached under case (i) conditions.  $\Omega(X)$  is defined by eqn. 4.10.



and since  $\phi(X)$  is well described by equation 4.9, all values are known, and  $k_{13}$  may be calculated at given values of  $X$ .

Figure 4.9 plots calculated values of  $\log k_{13}$  versus  $\frac{1}{T}$ , and from the slope the activation energy is :-

$$E_a = 26,236 \times 10^6 \text{ J/kg-mole} \dots\dots 4.14$$

From figure 4.6 it is observed that at  $X = 0,0$ ,  $k_{13} = 0,051$ , therefore at 318,0 K

$$\begin{aligned} A_E &= 0,051 / \exp \left( \frac{-26,236 \times 10^6}{8,31 \times 10^3 \times 318,0} \right) \\ &= 2,49 \times 10^{-6} \dots\dots\dots 4.15 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the final overall form of the differential rate equation for VMWBM sphalerite leaching under case (i) conditions appears as follows :

$$r_F = \frac{\psi_4(X) \phi_0 (k_{11} [H^+] - \Omega(X) (k_{13})_0 [H_2S]_2^{0,5} [Zn^{2+}]_2^{0,5})}{(1,0 + K_{11} [H^+] + K_{22} [Zn^{2+}] + K_{23} [H_2S])} \dots\dots\dots 4.16$$

where :  $\psi_4(X)$  is defined by equation 4.9 ;

$\phi_0$  is defined by equation 2.1 ;

$\Omega(X)$  is defined by equation 4.11;

$k_{11} = A_E \exp \frac{-E_a}{RT}$  and values of  $A_E$  and  $E_a$  are given in table 3.9 ;

$(k_{13})_0 = A_E \exp \frac{-E_a}{RT}$  and values of  $A_E$  and  $E_a$  are given in equations 4.14 and 4.15 respectively.

Values for  $K_{11}$ ,  $K_{22}$  and  $K_{23}$  are given in table 3.10 .

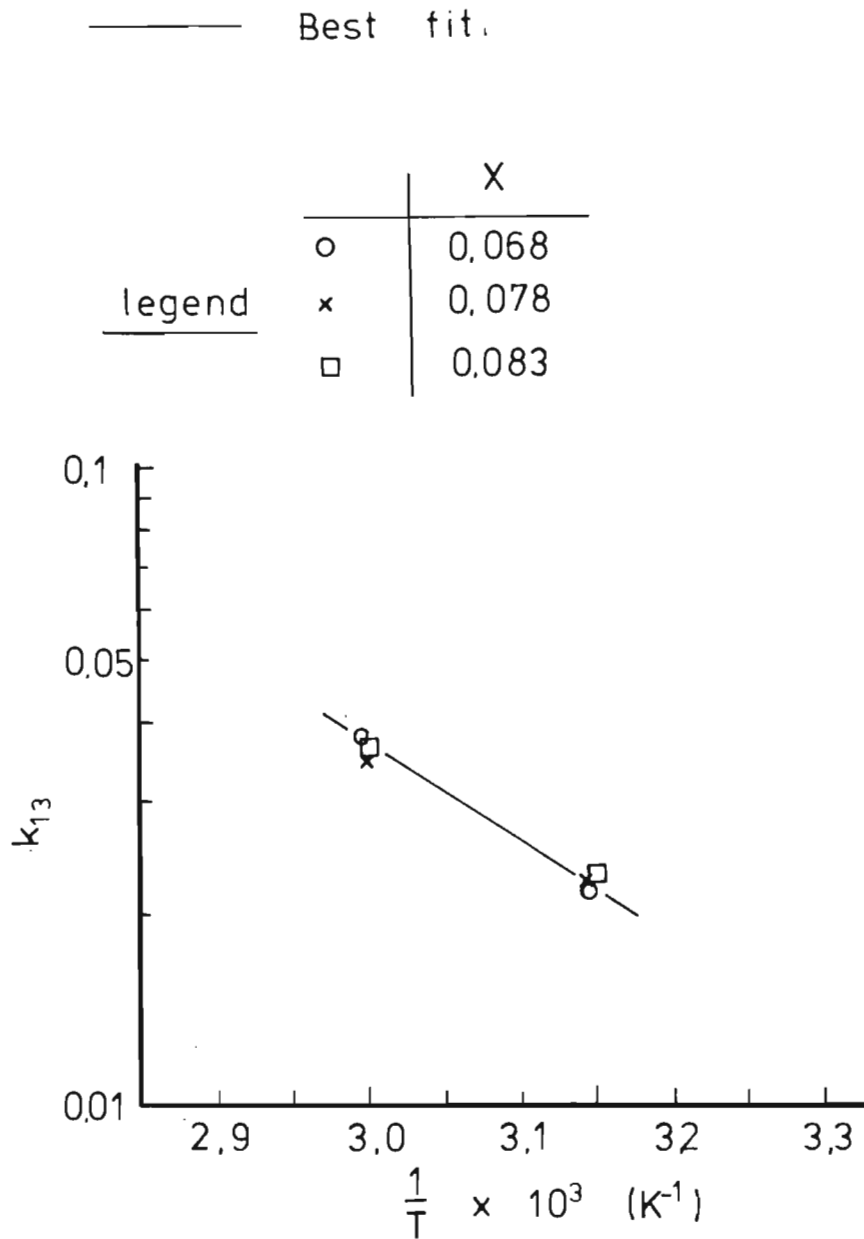


Figure 4.9 Arrhenius-type plot illustrating the effect of temperature on the reverse rate constant  $k_{13}$  for VMWBM sphalerite leaching under case(i) conditions. The 318,0 K and 338,0K leaching results are reported in tables I3 and I5 respectively.

4.3  $\psi_4(X)$  CALCULATED FOR THE VMZCR AND ZCR SPHALERITES

The same methods used in sections 4.1 and 4.2 to calculate  $\psi_4(X)$  for the VMWBM sphalerite were applied to calculate  $\psi_4(X)$  for the VMZCR sphalerite. In addition, case (ii) data was used to calculate  $\psi_4(X)$  for the ZCR sphalerite. Figure 4.10 summarises the calculated  $\psi_4(X)$  versus X data for the VMZCR and ZCR sphalerites and compares the  $\psi_4(X)$  values with  $\psi_1(X)$ ,  $\psi_2(X)$  and  $\psi_3(X)$  curves.

It is observed that the case (i) and case (ii)  $\psi_4(X)$  values for the VMZCR sphalerite are similar to each other, but are entirely different to the case (ii)  $\psi_4(X)$  values for the ZCR sphalerite. The shape of the  $\psi_4(X)$  versus X curves for the VMZCR and ZCR sphalerites are observed to be significantly different to the shape of the  $\psi_1(X)$ ,  $\psi_2(X)$  curves or the  $\psi_3(X)$  curve for this sphalerite.

In order to test whether sulphur blinding caused  $\psi_4(X)$  for the ZCR sphalerite to decrease much faster than  $\psi_3(X)$  for this sphalerite the following experiment (results reported in table J 18) was performed :-

ZCR sphalerite was leached for 60,0 minutes under case (ii) conditions prior to being filtered. All the elemental sulphur associated with the filtered residue was removed by washing with carbon tetrachloride. The washed solids were returned to the filtrate from which they were removed, with all leaching conditions identical to conditions at the time of filtration.

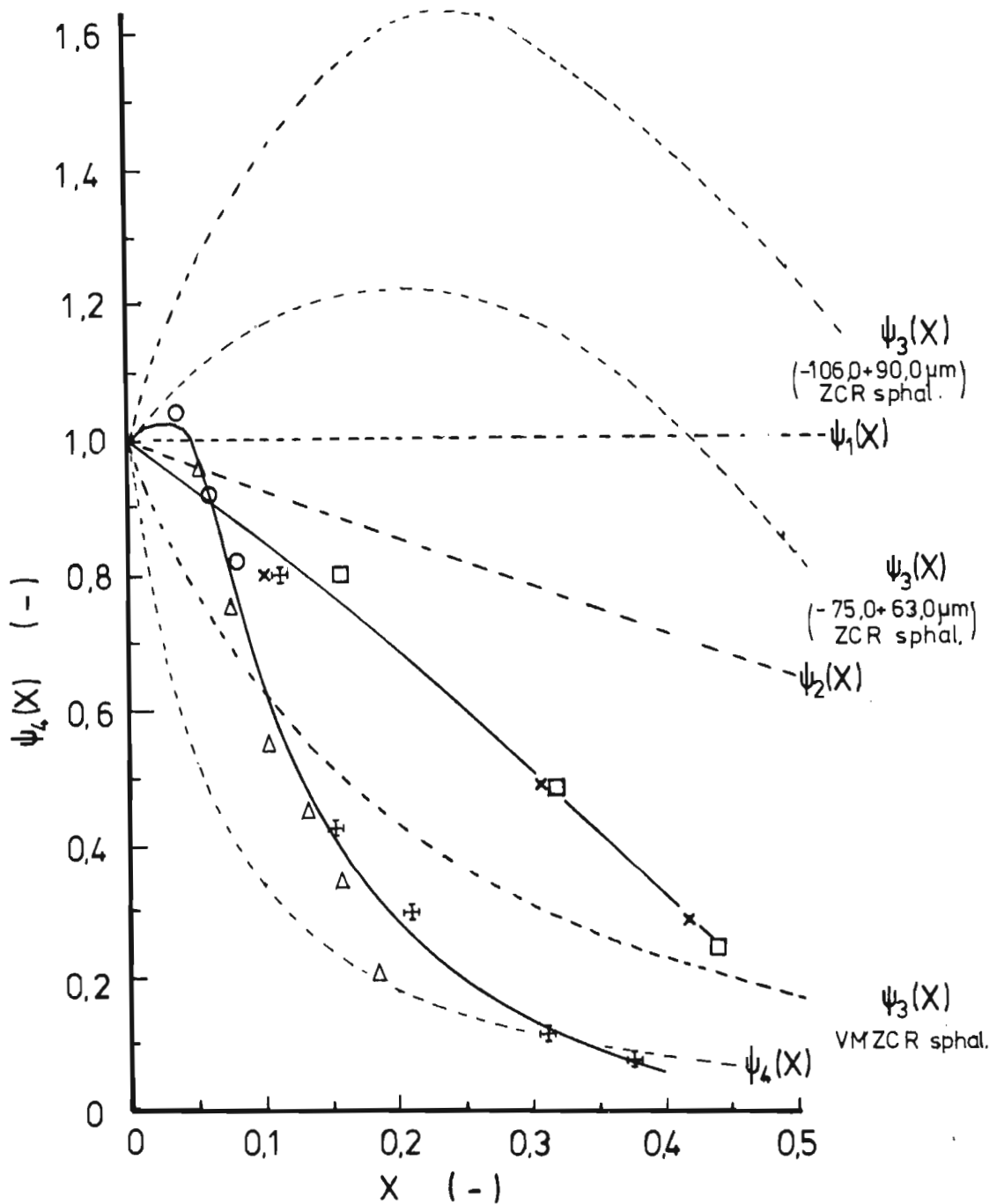


Figure 4.10 Comparison of calculated  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  values for the VMZCR sphalerite (leaching under case(i) conditions) and for the ZCR sphalerite (leaching only under case(ii) conditions) with the functions  $\psi_1(X)$ ;  $\psi_2(X)$ ;  $\psi_3(X)$  and  $\psi_4(X)$ .

Figure 4.11 plots the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time rate curve for the sphalerite leaching before and after sulphur removal and it is observed that sulphur removal did not result in an increase in the rate of leaching. Hence the rapid decrease in  $\psi_4(X)$  is a real phenomenon, and not merely due to sulphur blinding.

It is observed on figure 4.10 that  $\psi_4(X)$  for the VMZCR and ZCR sphalerites are entirely different to  $\psi_4(X)$  for the VMWBM and WBM sphalerites.

Figure 4.12 compares three  $k_{13}$  versus X values computed for the VMZCR sphalerite with the best fit  $k_{13}$  versus X curve for the VMWBM sphalerite (from figure 4.5). A similar order of magnitude, and dependence on X is observed.

#### 4.4 $\psi_4(X)$ CALCULATED FOR THE PR AND VMPR SPHALERITES

Figure 4.13 plots  $\psi_4(X)$  versus X data calculated using only case (ii) data for the VMPR and PR sphalerites.  $\psi_4(X)$  is observed to decrease more rapidly for the VMPR sphalerite than for the PR sphalerite, and  $\psi_4(X)$  for both sphalerites are entirely different to the shapes of the  $\psi_1(X)$ ,  $\psi_2(X)$  and  $\psi_3(X)$  functions shown plotted on figure 4.13.

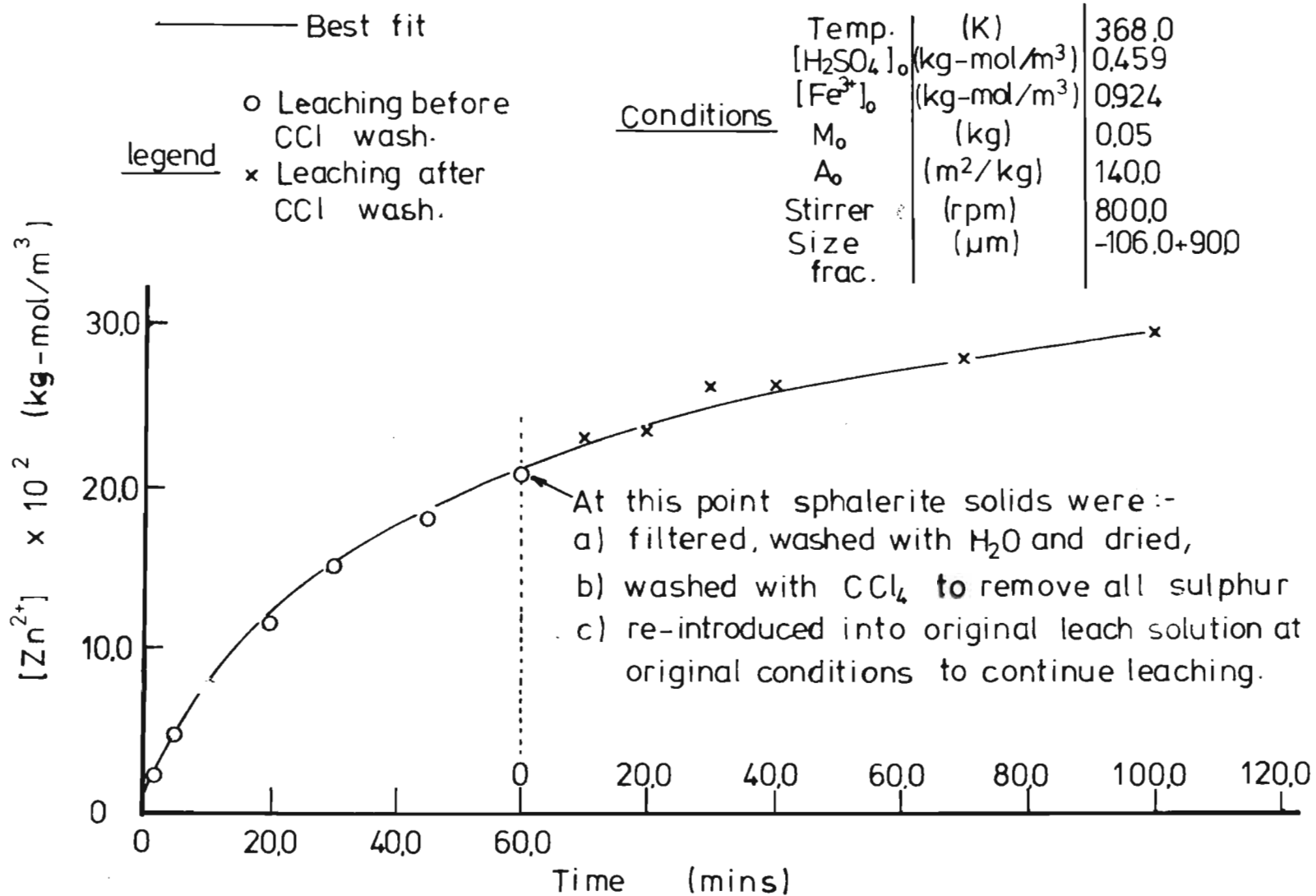


Figure 4.11 Rate curve for ZCR sphalerite (results reported in table J 18) leaching under case(ii) conditions, demonstrating the effect of removing the sulphur from the particles at  $X = 0.49$  ( $t = 60.0$ mins)

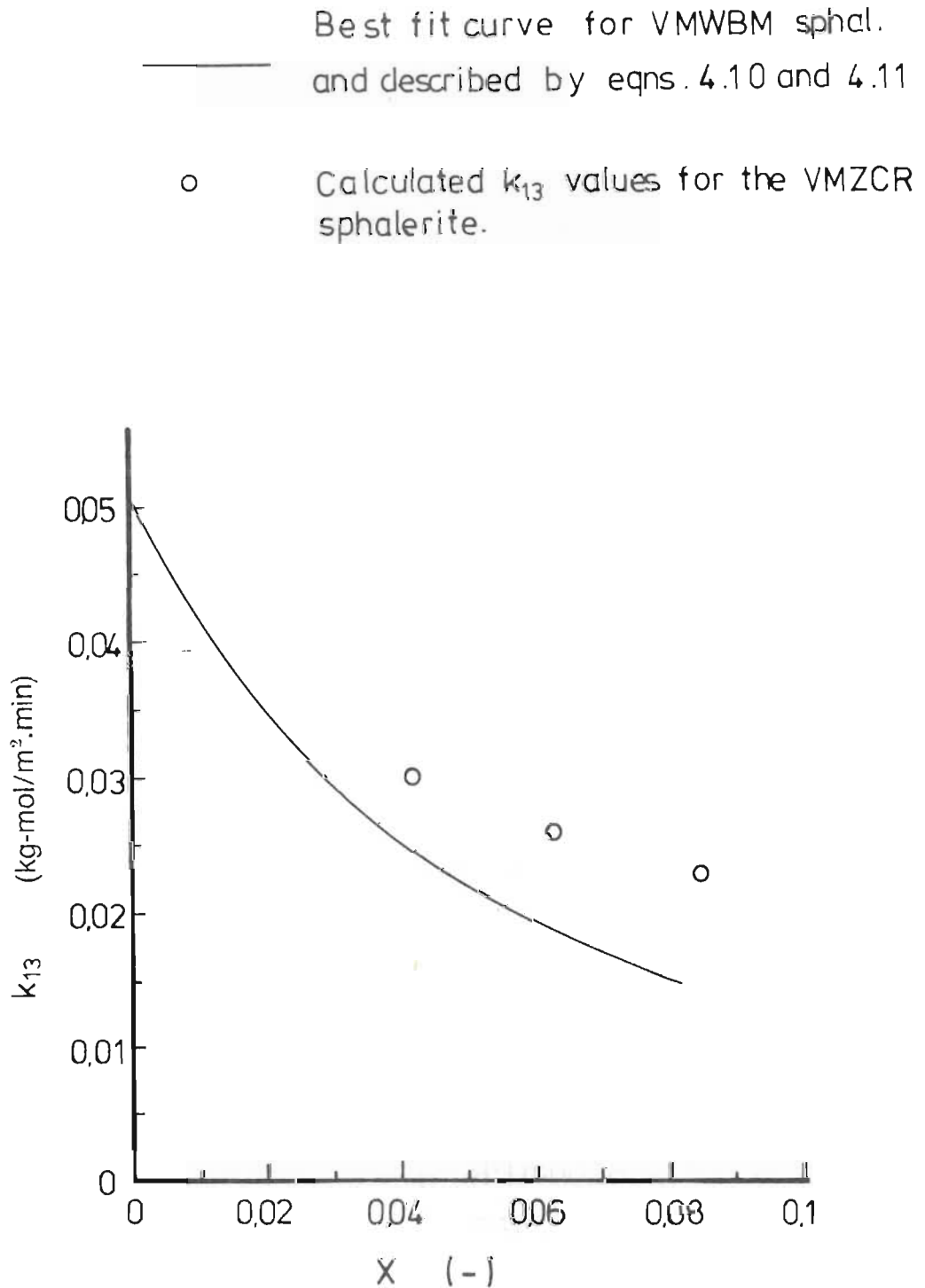


Figure 4.12 Comparison of reverse rate constant  $k_{13}$  calculated for VMZCR sphal. (using data reported in tables I.13 and I.15) with the best fit  $k_{13}$  curve (off fig 4.6) for VMWBM sphalerite.



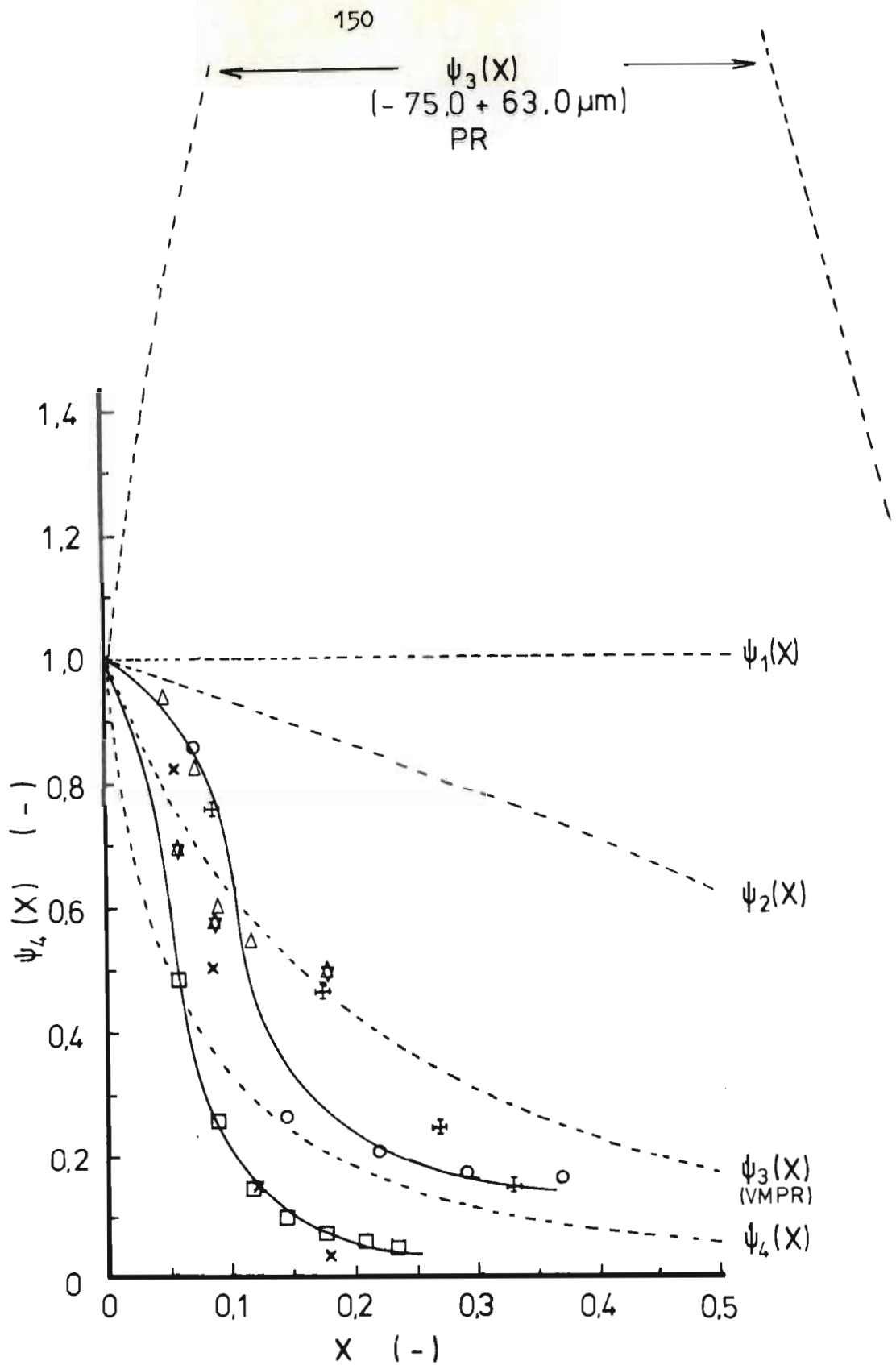


Figure 4.13 Comparison of calculated  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  values for the PR and VM-PR sphalerites leaching under case (ii) conditions with the functions  $\psi_1(X)$ ;  $\psi_2(X)$ ;  $\psi_3(X)$  and  $\psi_4(X)$ .

4.5  $\psi_4(X)$  CALCULATED FOR THE BDH  
SPHALERITE

Romankiw (1962) and Verhulst (1974) were able to demonstrate that for synthetic sphalerite leaching under case (i) conditions ( $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 0.0$ ) the active site concentration decreases in a way described by the shrinking core model. Hence equation 4.5 was used to calculate the reverse rate constant  $k_{13}$  under the assumption that  $\phi(X)$  decreases according to shrinking core behaviour (expressed by equation 4.2).

Figure 4.14 plots calculated values of  $k_{13}$  versus  $X$ , for experiments in which various masses of BDH sphalerite were leached at  $25.0^\circ C$  at various  $[H_2SO_4]_0$  values. The  $k_{13}$  values are observed to be independent of  $X$  within experimental limitations, and with the limitation imposed by manually measuring the rate values  $r$  as a function of  $X$  off the rate curves. This suggests that the shrinking core model indeed predicts the change in active site area for this sphalerite.

However, figure 4.15 plots  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  for the BDH sphalerite leaching under case (ii) conditions.  $\psi_4(X)$  is observed to decrease far more rapidly than  $\psi_2(X)$  predicted by the shrinking core model, and very nearly as rapidly as the  $\psi_4(X)$  observed for the VMWBM and WBM sphalerites.

No attempt is made to account for the differences between the calculated case (i) and case (ii)  $\psi_4(X)$  values.

— Best fit

Conditions	Temp.	(K)	298,0
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

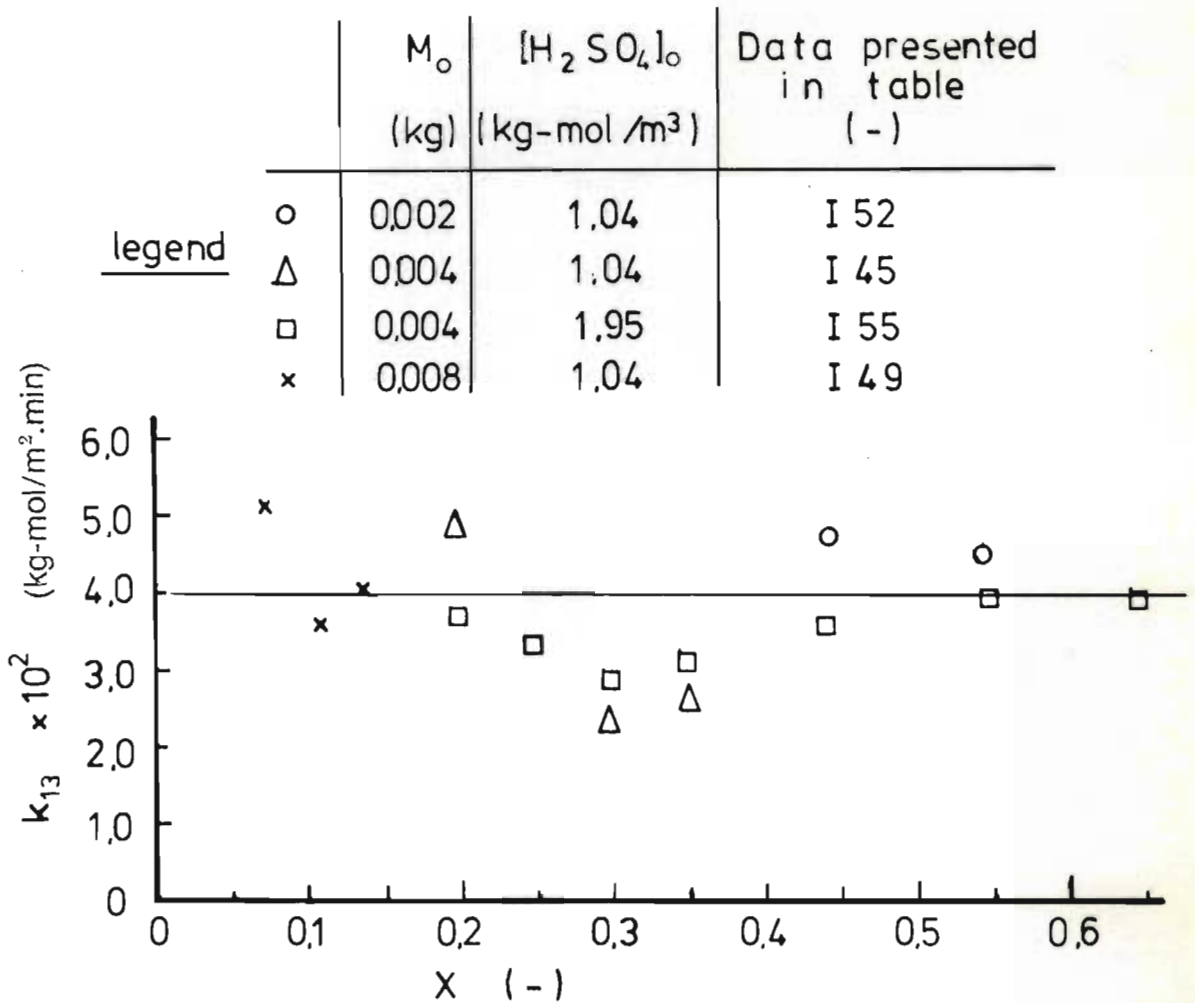


Figure 4.14 Reverse rate constant values  $k_{13}$  calculated for BDH sphalerite leaching under various case(i) conditions (using eqn.4.5 with the assumption that  $\phi(X)$  varies according to the shrinking core model eqn.4.2)

———— Best fit through calc.  $\psi_4(X)$  values

	Calculated using eqn.
$\psi_1(X)$	4.1
$\psi_2(X)$	4.2
$\psi_3(X)$	4.2
$\psi_4(X)$	4.9

legend	$M_o$ (kg)	$[Fe^{3+}]_o$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	$[H_2SO_4]_o$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	Temp. (K)	Results in table
x	0.02	0.143	0.063	343.0	J 45
$\Delta$	0.02	0.292	0.107	343.0	J 46
o	0.05	0.580	0.223	353.0	J 47

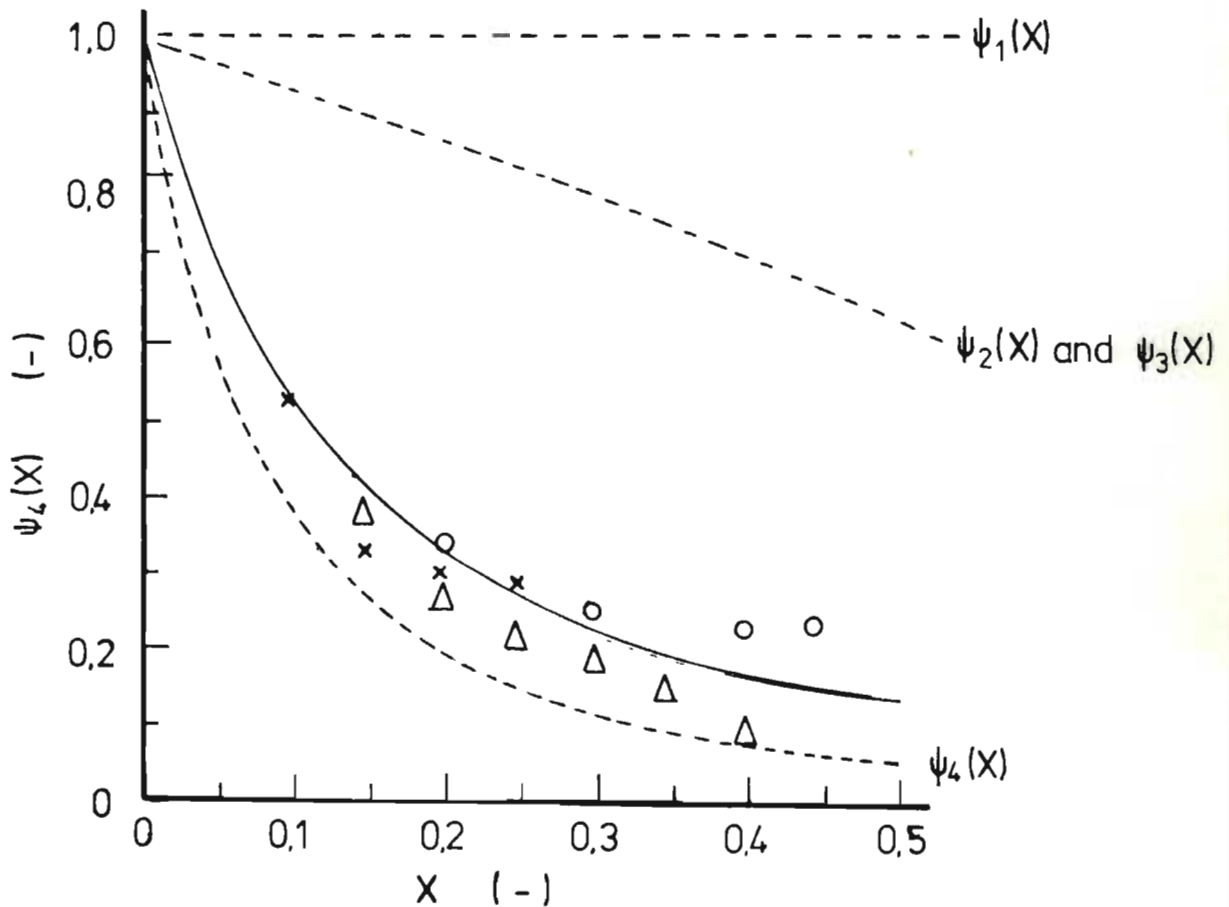


Figure 4.15 Comparison of  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  values for BDH sphalerite leaching under case(ii) conditions with the functions  $\psi_1(X)$ ;  $\psi_2(X)$ ;  $\psi_3(X)$  and  $\psi_4(X)$ .

4. 6      COMPARISON OF  $\psi_4(X)$  FUNCTIONS  
CALCULATED FOR THE DIFFERENT SPHALERITES

Figure 4.16 summarises the calculated  $\psi_4(X)$  versus  $X$  best fit curves plotted previously in this chapter for the different sphalerites. It is observed that for approximately  $X \leq 0,2$   $\psi_4(X)$  changes as a function of  $X$  in a unique manner for each different sphalerite. For approximately  $X \geq 0,2$ , the decreases in  $\psi_4(X)$  with increasing  $X$  for each sphalerite are somewhat similar.

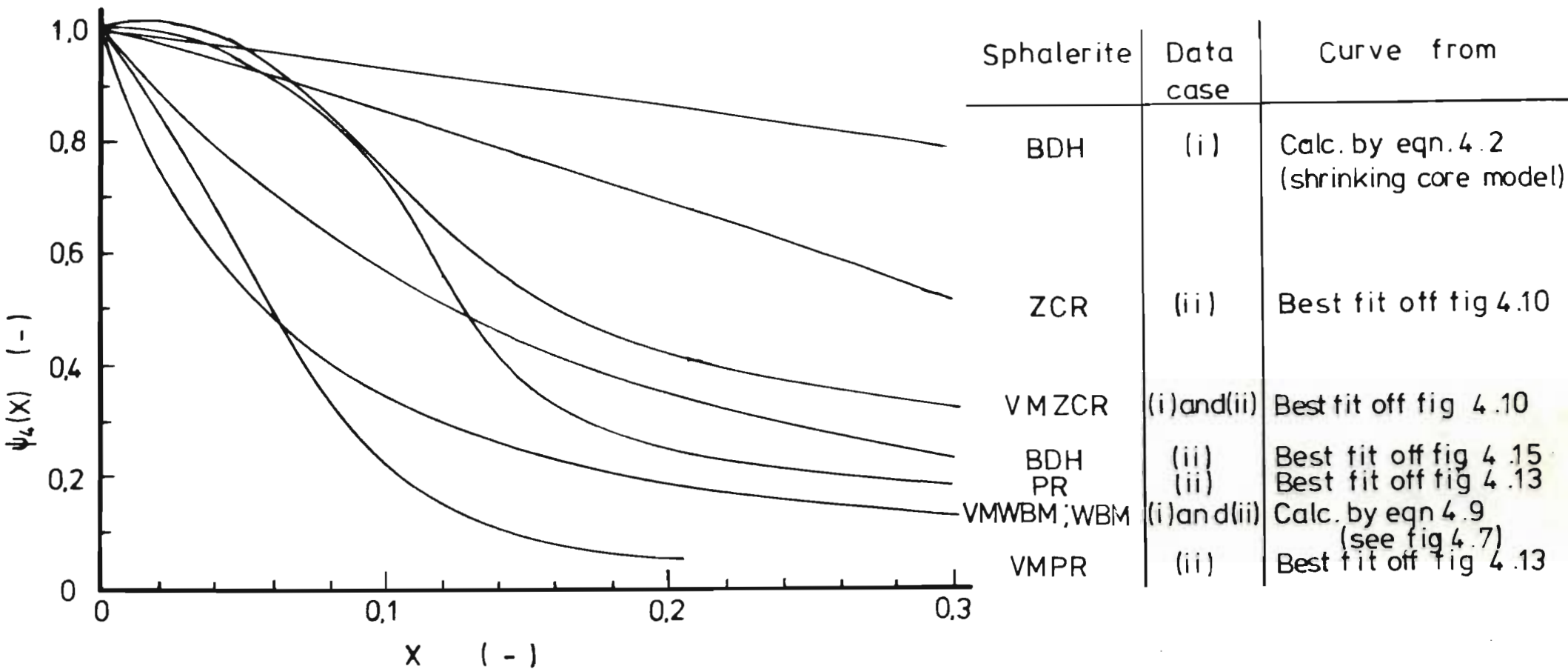


Figure 4.16 Comparison between the  $\psi_2(X)$  versus  $X$  best fit and calculated curves for each of the sphalerites, presented previously on figures 4.7;4.10;4.13 and 4.15.

CHAPTER 5TESTING OF H<sub>2</sub>S OXIDATION BY Fe<sup>3+</sup>  
AND CASE (iii) LEACHING MODELS5.1 OXIDATION OF H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup>

In this section model I describing the homogeneous H<sub>2</sub>S oxidation by Fe<sup>3+</sup> is tested using the results of experiments in which :-

- a) H<sub>2</sub>S was bubbled into 0,5, 1,0 and 2,0 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> before injecting Fe<sup>3+</sup> into the reactor. Experiments like this were done with no solids present, and with activated charcoal initially present in the reactor. The latter results are reported in section 6.5 .
- b) H<sub>2</sub>S was generated by VMWBM, VMZCR, BDH or VMPR sphalerite solids leaching in aqueous H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and Fe<sup>3+</sup> was injected when the rate of increase in the H<sub>2</sub>S partial pressure became very small. Details of the experimental procedures and analytical techniques are presented in Appendixes B and D .



Tables 5.1 to 5.5 summarise the initial experimental conditions and measured rates of oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$  in the total absence of solids, and in the presence of the various sphalerites.

### 5.1.1 TESTING MODEL I

Under initial rate conditions model I has the following form :-

$$r_{I_0} = \left( \frac{d [H_2S]}{dt} \right)_0 = -k_I \frac{[H_2S]_0^{1,44} [Fe^{3+}]_0^{1,68}}{[H_2SO_4]_0^{2,49}} \quad \dots\dots\dots 5.1$$

where, according to Verhulst :-

$$k_I = 4,735 \times 10^{13} \exp \left( \frac{-67,72}{RT} \right) \quad \dots\dots\dots 5.2$$

At 318,0 K  $k_I = 347,3$

Now define a rate constant  $(k_{I_0})_{exp}$  based on equation 5.1 as follows :-

$$(k_{I_0})_{exp} = -(r_{I_0})_{exp} \times \frac{[H_2SO_4]_0^{2,49}}{[H_2S]_0^{1,44} [Fe^{3+}]_0^{1,68}} \quad \dots\dots\dots 5.3$$

where :-

$$(r_{I_0})_{exp} = \left( \frac{d P_{H_2S}}{dt} \right)_0 / K_D$$

NOTE THAT : a)  $\left( \frac{d P_{H_2S}}{dt} \right)_0$  is the measured initial rate of decrease in  $H_2S$  partial pressure after injecting the  $Fe^{3+}$  solution into the reactor.

TABLE	RUN NO.	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	$[Fe^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$ (kg - mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	$[H_2S]_0 \times 10^3$	$-(r_{I_0})_{exp} \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/min m <sup>3</sup> )	$(k_{I_0})_{exp}^{①}$	$(k_{I_0})_{mod}^{②}$	$\omega^{③}$
K 1	217	0,5	14,32	41,43	22,39	489,3	687,19	1,09
K 2	217	0,5	28,65	34,27	58,46	523,7	735,4	1,17
K 3	216	1,0	14,32	25,54	2,309	568,9	569,0	0,9
K 4	216	1,0	28,65	18,38	4,608	568,7	568,7	0,9
K 5	218	2,0	14,32	25,84	0,5757	783,6	557,9	0,89
K 6	218	2,0	28,65	18,68	1,358	919,8	654,9	1,04

① Defined by eqn. 5.3

② Defined by eqn 5.4

③ Defined by eqn 5.5

Table 5.1

SUMMARY OF INITIAL EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS AND RATE OF HOMOGENEOUS OXIDATION

OF H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup> (WITH NO SOLIDS PRESENT AT ALL)

TABLE	RUN NO.	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	$[Fe^{3+}]_0$ $\times 10^3$	$[H_2S]_0$ $\times 10^3$	$-(r_{I_0})_{exp} \times 10^3$	$(k_{I_0})_{exp}$ ①	$(k_{I_0})_{mod}$ ②	$\omega$ ③
K 7	172	0,48	5,5	6,5	0,453	642,7	920,8	1,46
K 8	172	0,48	13,8	4,87	1,27	582,2	834,2	1,33
K 9	176	0,97	5,5	10,32	0,222	933,1	947,1	1,51
K 10	176	0,97	13,8	9,19	0,774	819,7	832,0	1,32
K 11	175	1,95	5,5	18,11	0,112	1 192,0	859,2	1,37
K 12	175	1,95	13,8	16,6	0,631	1 623,0	1 170,0	1,86

① Defined by eqn 5.3

② " " 5.4

③ " " 5.5

Table 5.2

SUMMARY OF INITIAL EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS AND RATE OF OXIDATION OF

H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup> IN THE PRESENCE OF VMWBM SPHALERITE SOLIDS

TABLE	RUN NO.	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg - mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	$[Fe^{3+}]_0$ $\times 10^3$	$[H_2S]_0$ $\times 10^3$	$-(r_{I_0})_{exp}$ $\times 10^3$	$(k_I)_{exp}^{①}$	$(k_I)_{mod}^{②}$	$\omega^{③}$
K 13	200	0,48	5,73	6,673	0,586	747,3	1 071,0	1,7
K 14	200	0,48	14,3	5,08	1,358	551,8	790,6	1,26
K 15	199	0,96	14,3	16,1	1,032	447,4	456,5	0,73
K 16	199	0,96	28,6	11,64	2,18	470,6	480,1	0,76
K 17	201	1,95	14,3	25,0	0,94	1 263,0	910,3	1,45
K 18	201	1,95	28,6	18,22	1,65	1 091,0	786,4	1,25
K 19	201	1,95	28,6	8,28	0,586	1 206,0	869,6	1,38

① Defined by eqn 5.3

② Defined by eqn 5.4

③ Defined by eqn 5.5

Table 5.3

SUMMARY OF INITIAL EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS AND RATE OF OXIDATION  
OF H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup> IN THE PRESENCE OF BDH SPHALERITE

TABLE	RUN NO.	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	$[Fe^{3+}]_0$ $\times 10^3$ (kg - mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	$[H_2S]_0$ $\times 10^3$	$-(r_{I_0})_{exp}$	<sup>①</sup> $(k_I)_{exp}$	<sup>②</sup> $(k_I)_{exp}$	<sup>③</sup> $\omega$
K 20	170	0,48	5,5	8,39	0,526	516,7	740,1	1,18
K 21	170	0,48	13,8	6,93	1,59	438,6	628,4	1,0
K 22	170	0,48	13,8	2,34	0,519	683,6	979,4	1,56
K 23	168	0,97	5,5	10,53	0,238	971,7	986,3	1,57
K 24	168	0,97	13,8	8,94	0,624	687,6	697,9	1,11
K 25	168	0,97	13,8	4,21	0,205	668,1	678,2	1,08
K 26	174	1,94	5,5	22,1	0,102	804,4	581,4	0,92
K 27	174	1,94	13,8	20,23	0,660	1 260,0	911,0	1,45
K 28	174	1,94	13,8	14,7	0,440	1 331,0	961,9	1,53

① Defined by eqn 5.3

② Defined by eqn 5.4

③ Defined by eqn 5.5

Table 5.4

SUMMARY OF INITIAL EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS AND RATE OF OXIDATION  
OF  $H_2S$  BY  $Fe^{3+}$  IN THE PRESENCE OF VMZCR SPHALERITE

TABLE (-)	RUN NO. (-)	A (m <sup>2</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> )	[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] (kg-mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe <sup>3+</sup> ] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	[H <sub>2</sub> S] <sub>0</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	-(r <sub>I<sub>0</sub></sub> ) <sub>exp</sub> x 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/min m <sup>3</sup> )	(k <sub>I<sub>0</sub></sub> ) <sub>exp</sub> <sup>①</sup>	(k <sub>I<sub>0</sub></sub> ) <sub>mod</sub> <sup>②</sup>	ω <sup>③</sup>
K 29	171	17,75	0,48	5,5	5,39	5,39	10 290,0	14 740,0	23,44
K 30	171	17,75	0,48	13,8	3,65	3,65	2 534,0	3 631,0	5,77
K 31	169	4,66	0,97	5,5	9,84	1,65	7 427,0	7 539,0	11,99
K 32	169	4,66	0,97	13,8	7,95	1,60	2 088,0	2 119,0	3,37
K 33	101	28,68	0,95	4,48	12,27	15,11	66 330,0	68 020,0	108,17
K 34	101	28,68	0,95	4,48	9,81	7,74	46 890,0	48 090,0	76,48
K 35	173	8,564	1,95	5,5	20,39	4,63	41 530,0	29 940,0	47,61
K 36	173	8,564	1,95	5,5	18,67	3,07	31 270,0	22 540,0	35,85
K 37	173	8,564	1,95	13,8	16,64	4,21	10 790,0	7 778,0	12,37
K 38	173	8,564	1,95	12,1	11,29	2,90	16 200,0	11 680,0	18,58

① Defined by eqn 5.3

② Defined by eqn 5.4

③ Defined by eqn 5.5

Table 5.5

SUMMARY OF INITIAL EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS AND RATE OF OXIDATION OF  
H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup> IN THE PRESENCE OF VM PR SPHALERITE

b)  $K_D = \frac{(P_{H_2S})_0}{[H_2S]_0}$  if the initial partial pressure and concentration of  $H_2S$  are known;

c)  $K_D$  may alternatively be calculated using equation E. 27.

Tables 5.1 to 5.5 also present calculated values of  $(k_{I_0})_{exp}$  for each experiment.

Figure 5.1 plots the  $(k_{I_0})_{exp}$  results reported on tables 5.1 and 5.2 against  $[H_2SO_4]_0$ , and  $(k_{I_0})_{exp}$  is observed to increase with increasing  $[H_2SO_4]_0$ .

It was established that reducing the value of the exponent on the  $H_2SO_4$  term in equation 5.1 from 2.49 to 2.0 resulted in a significantly better fit of the equation to the data.

Define a modified rate constant  $(k_{I_0})_{mod}$  as follows :-

$$(k_{I_0})_{mod} = -(r_{I_0})_{exp} \cdot \frac{[H_2SO_4]^{2,0}}{[H_2S]_0^{1,44} [Fe^{3+}]_0^{1,68}}$$

..... 5. 4

where  $(r_{I_0})_{exp}$  is defined as before.

Tables 5.1 to 5.5 present the calculated  $(k_{I_0})_{mod}$  values for each experiment.

To facilitate comparison of the various results, define a rate constant ratio  $\omega$  as follows :-



— Best fit

legend	Data extracted off table	Sphalerite present
○	5.1	None
×	5.2	VMWBM

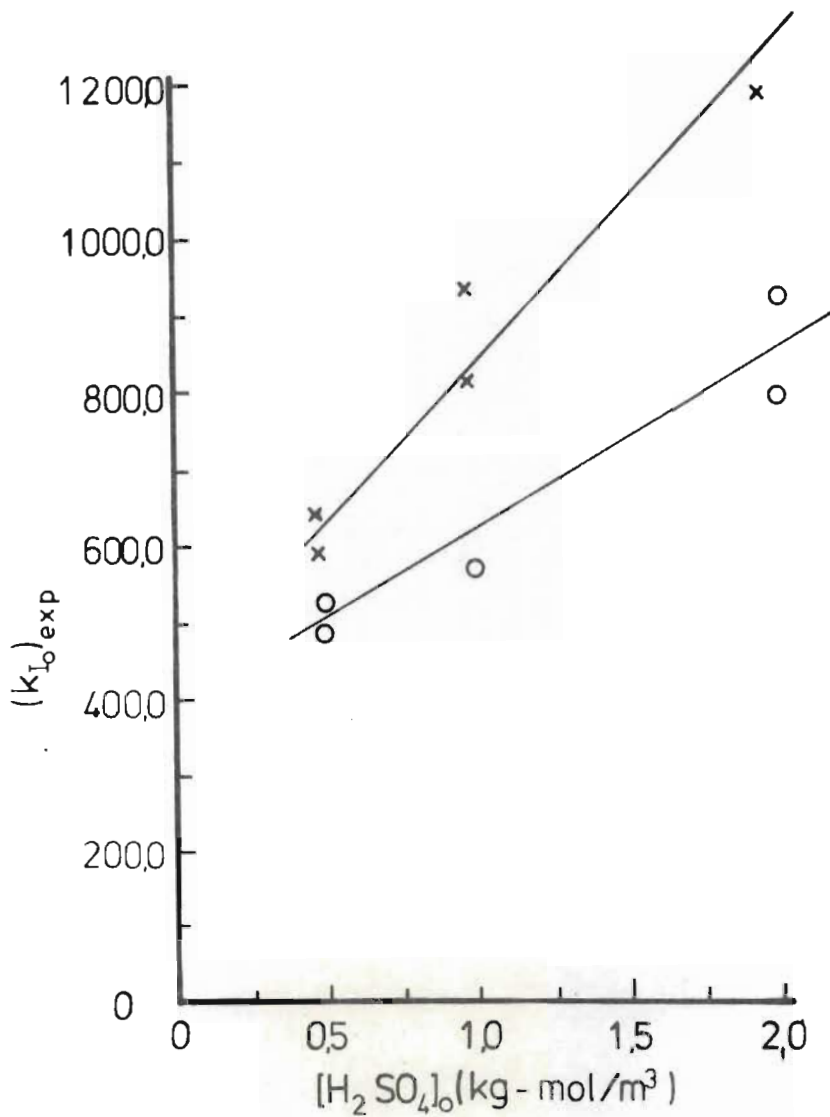


Figure 5.1  $H_2S$  oxidation rate constant  $(k_{I_o})_{exp}$  versus  $[H_2SO_4]_o$ .  $(k_{I_o})_{exp}$  was calculated using the Verhulst model as expressed by eqn 5.3

$$\omega = \frac{(k_{I_0})_{\text{mod}}}{628,8} \dots\dots\dots 5.5$$

where  $(k_{I_0})_{\text{mod}}$  is defined by equation 5.4.  
 The value 628,8 is the arithmetic mean of the  $(k_{I_0})_{\text{mod}}$  values calculated for the purely homogeneous experiments on table 5.1.

Table 5.6 summarises the arithmetic mean and standard deviation of the  $(k_{I_0})_{\text{exp}}$ ,  $(k_{I_0})_{\text{mod}}$  and  $\omega$  values for the results presented on tables 5.1 to 5.5.

The following observations are made concerning the results summarised on table 5.6 :-

- a) Except when VMPR solids were present, the standard deviations for the  $(k_{I_0})_{\text{mod}}$  values were significantly less than for the  $(k_{I_0})_{\text{exp}}$  values. This suggests that the modified form of model I (represented by equation 5.6) fits the data significantly better than the original form of model I (represented by equation 5.1).
- b) The  $\omega$  values for the experiments performed in the presence of the sphalerite solids are significantly larger than in the purely homogeneous case where no solids were present. In particular  $\omega$  for the case where VMPR sphalerite solids were present is very large, and the standard deviation for this case is so large as to suggest that the modified Verhulst equation does not fit.

Sphalerite present	$(\bar{k}_{I_0})_{\text{exp}}$	s	$(\bar{k}_{I_0})_{\text{mod}}$	s	$\bar{\omega}$	s
None	640,7	167,2	628,8	74,4	1,0	0,12
VMWBM	965,5	389,1	927,2	127,8	1,48	0,2
BDH	828,3	355,1	766,4	224,8	1,22	0,36
VMZCR	818,0	311,2	796,1	162,5	1,27	0,26
VMPR	23 534,9	21 890,3	21 607,7	21 508,6	34,36	34,2

T A B L E 5. 6

SUMMARY OF THE ARITHMETIC MEAN  
AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS OF THE  
 $(\bar{k}_{I_0})_{\text{exp}}$  ,  $(\bar{k}_{I_0})_{\text{mod}}$  AND  $\bar{\omega}$   
VALUES PRESENTED ON TABLES 5. 1

TO 5. 5

Figure 5.2 plots  $\omega$  versus A, where A is the B.E.T. area in the reactor at the time of injecting the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ . It is observed that  $\omega$  increases with increasing A, and that  $\omega$  is significantly larger after the first injection of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  than after subsequent introductions of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ .

This suggests that the presence of the various sphalerite solids catalyse the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  oxidation reaction, and that  $\text{S}^0$  formed on the surface blinds active sites and reduces the catalytic effect.

The  $\omega$  values increase in the order :

no solids < BDH < VMWBM < VMZCR << VMPR .

It may then be concluded that :-

- i) the presence of sphalerite solids does catalyse the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ , particularly in the case of the VMPR sphalerite ;
- ii) the modified form of the Verhulst equation fits the oxidation kinetics better than the original form, and for the homogeneous oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  by  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  the modified Verhulst equation may be expressed as follows :-

$$\frac{d[\text{H}_2\text{S}]}{dt} = - (k_I)_{\text{mod}} \times \frac{[\text{H}_2\text{S}]^{1,44} [\text{Fe}^{3+}]^{1,68}}{[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]^{2,0}}$$

..... 5.6

with  $(k_I)_{\text{mod}} = 8,572 \times 10^{13} \exp \frac{-67,72}{RT}$

and at 318,0 K:  $(k_I)_{\text{mod}} = 628,8$ .

— Best fits

legend      ○  $\omega$  after first injection of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$   
                   ×  $\omega$  after second injection of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$

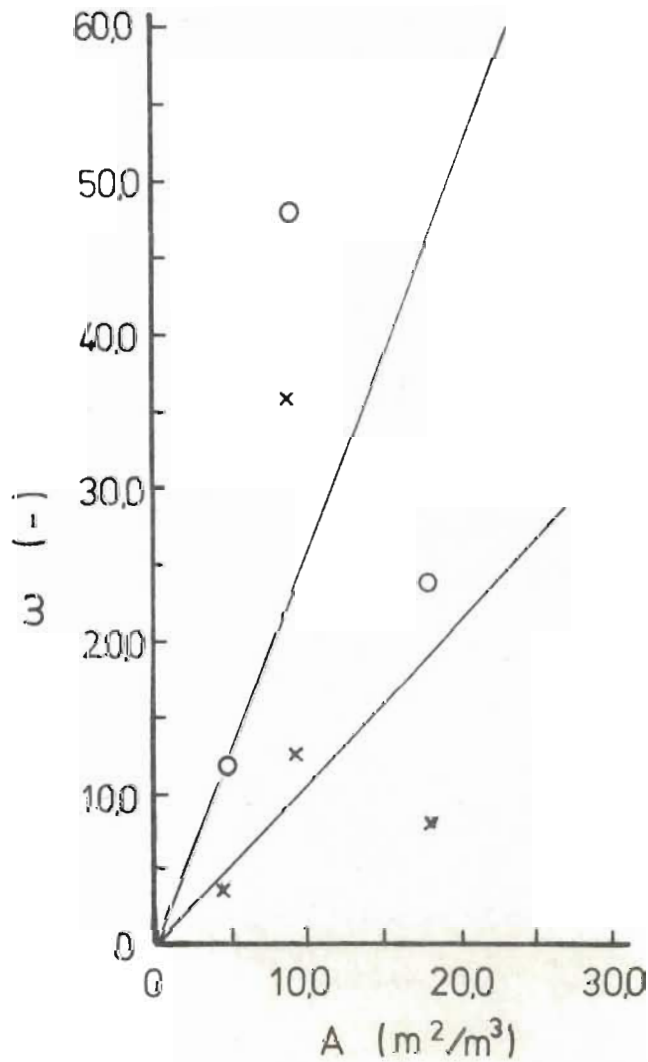


Figure 5.2  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  oxidation rate constant ratio  $\omega$  (defined by eqn 5.5) versus the total VMPR sphalerite surface area  $A$  present. The catalytic effect of the VMPR solids on the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  is evident. Data on this figure was extracted off table 5.5

5. 2 QUALITATIVE RESULTS OF LEACHING VARIOUS SPHALERITES UNDER CASE (iii) CONDITIONS  
 (  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 \leq 0,1$  )

Equations 2.98 and 2.99 (summarised on table 2.4) represents model J proposed for the leaching of VMWBM, VMZCR and BDH (but not VMPR) sphalerites under case (iii) conditions. According to mechanism 2 proposed in chapter 2, when leaching these sphalerites under case (iii) conditions -

- a) the  $S^{\ominus}$  species react with adsorbed  $Fe^{3+}$  to form  $S^0$  in situ (oxidative leaching);
- b) the  $S^{\ominus}$  species react with adsorbed  $H^+$  to form  $H_2S$  (non-oxidative leaching);
- c) the  $H_2S$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  react homogeneously.

These reactions take place simultaneously.

In section 5.1 it was demonstrated that the oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$  was catalysed by the sphalerite surface present. Since this catalytic effect has not been studied in detail or been allowed for in model J, the results of leaching the various sphalerites under case (iii) conditions are merely dealt with qualitatively in this section.

Table 5.7 summarises the conditions for the experiments in which VMWBM, VMZCR, BDH and VMPR sphalerites were leached under case (iii) conditions. It is observed that case (i) experiments - (  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 0,0$  ) have been included in table 5.7 for comparative purposes. Thus, in this section the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time and  $^F H_2S$  versus time rate curves for leaching without  $Fe^{3+}$  and with low initial

TABLE	RUN NO.	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	$[Fe^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$	
I 8	172	0,5	0	VMWBM SPHALERITE (M <sub>0</sub> = 0,01 kg)
L 1	180	0,5	13,75	
I 2	176	1,0	0	
L 2	177	1,0	13,75	
L 3	178	1,0	27,50	
L 4	179	1,0	55,01	
L 5	210	1,0	57,03	
I 9	175	2,0	0	
L 6	181	2,0	13,75	
I 17	167	1,0	0	VMZCR SPHALERITE (M <sub>0</sub> = 0,01 kg)
L 14	207	1,0	28,67	
L 15	211	1,0	57,3	
I 36	199	1,0	0	BDH SPHALERITE (M <sub>0</sub> = 0,004 kg)
L 16	206	1,0	28,67	
L 17	208	1,0	114,67	
I 27	132	1,0	0	VMPR SPHALERITE (M <sub>0</sub> = 0,01 kg)
L 18	209	1,0	14,32	
L 19	205	1,0	28,67	

- NOTES :-
- 1) Temp. = 318,0 K
  - 2) Stirrer = 1000,0 rpm

T A B L E    5.7

SUMMARY OF EXPERIMENTAL  
CONDITIONS FOR VMWBM, VMZCR,  
BDH AND VMPR SPHALERITES LEACHING  
UNDER CASE (i) AND (iii) CONDITIONS



concentrations of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  are compared.

In chapter 6 (section 5) the results of leaching VMWBM sphalerite with activated charcoal present under case (i) and case (iii) conditions are presented.

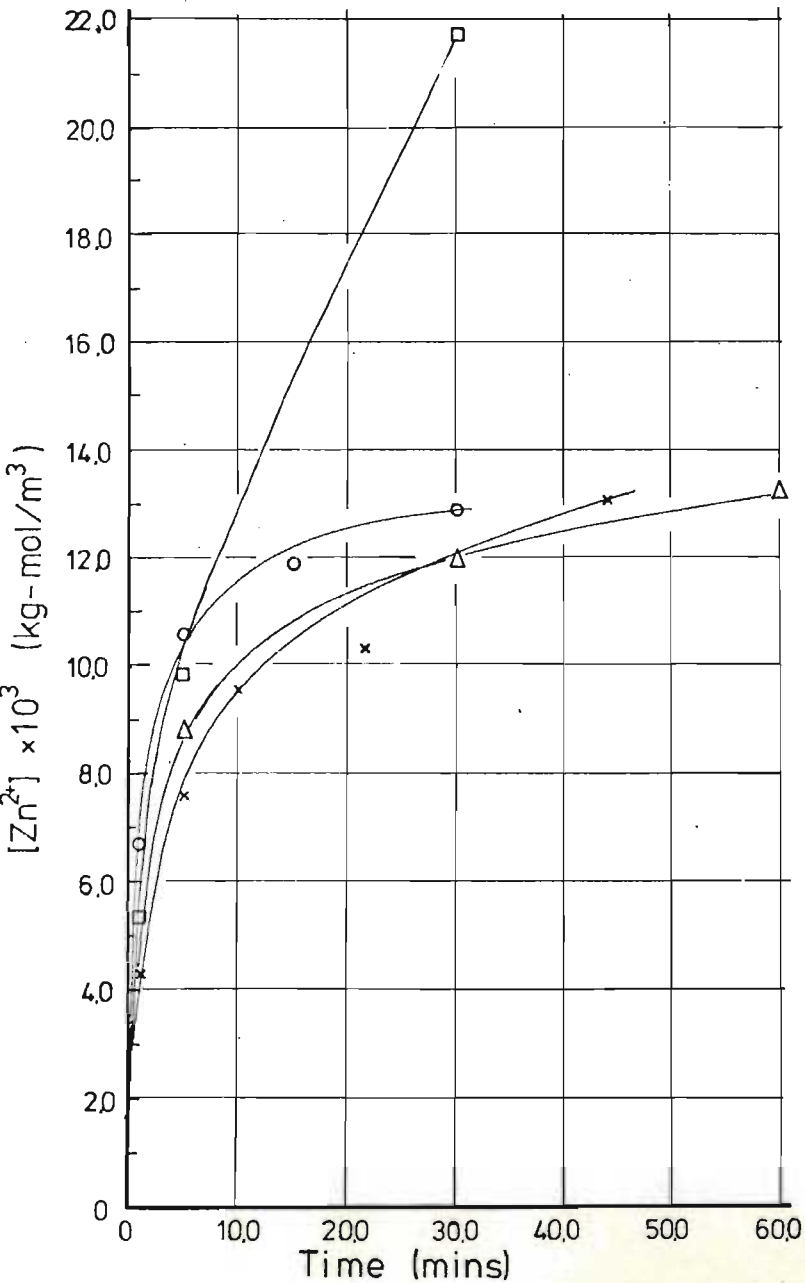
#### 5.2.1 VMWBM SPHALERITE LEACHING UNDER CASE (iii) CONDITIONS

Figures 5.3a and 5.3b plot  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$  versus time and  $\text{PH}_2\text{S}$  versus time rate curves for VMWBM sphalerite leaching without and with low  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$  present. Figure 5.4 plots  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$  versus  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$  at different discrete time intervals; where the  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$  values were either experimentally determined or interpolated off the curves on figure 5.3.

It is observed that the amount of  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$  leached after a given time interval initially decreases to a minimum as  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$  increases.

From figure 5.3b it is observed that as  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$  increases, the measurable amount of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  formed decreases. For  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 = 27,5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ (kg-mol/m}^3\text{)}$ , the  $\text{PH}_2\text{S}$  is observed to increase to a maximum at about  $t = 5,0 \text{ mins.}$ , and then decrease to zero. After 30 mins the  $\text{PH}_2\text{S}$  is observed to increase again. It is apparant that for  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 = 55,0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ (kg-mol/m}^3\text{)}$ , negligible measureable  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  is formed.

Figures 5.5a and 5.5b plot  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$  versus time and  $\text{PH}_2\text{S}$  versus time rate curves for VMWBM sphalerite leaching without and with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  initially



(on fig 5.3a) Best fit through exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  data.

Legend			
Points	Curves	Data on table	$[Fe^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
o	a	I 2	0
x	b	L 2	13,75
Δ	c	L 3	27,50
□	d	L 4	55,00

conditions	
$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Temp. (K)	318,0
$M_o$ (kg)	0,01
Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0

Fig. 5.3a

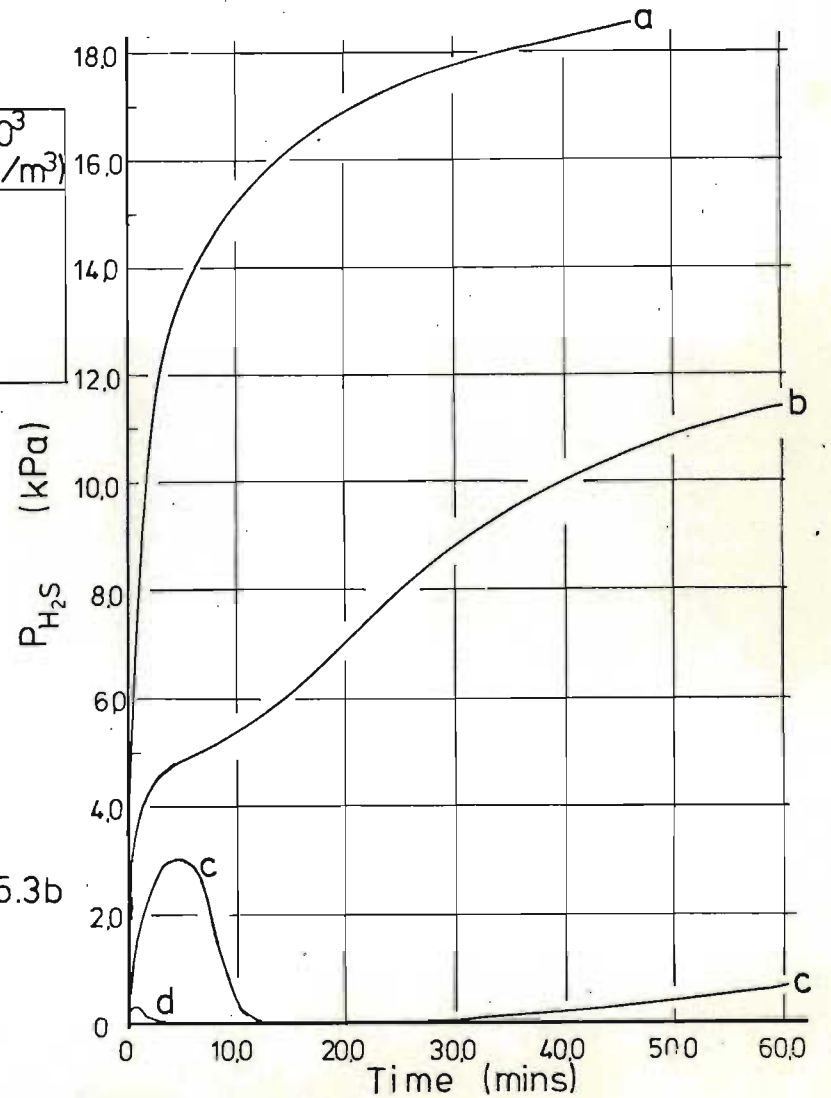


Fig 5.3b

Figures 5.3a and 5.3b Comparison between case (i) and case (iii) exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  leaching results for VMWBM sphalerite.

— Best fit

legend○ Exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  values×  $[Zn^{2+}]$  values interpolated off fig 5.3a

conditions	$[H_2SO_4]_0$	(kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
	Temp.	(K)	318,0
	$M_0$	(kg)	0,01
	Stirrer	(rpm)	1000,0

Time (mins)

15,0

10,0

5,0

1,0

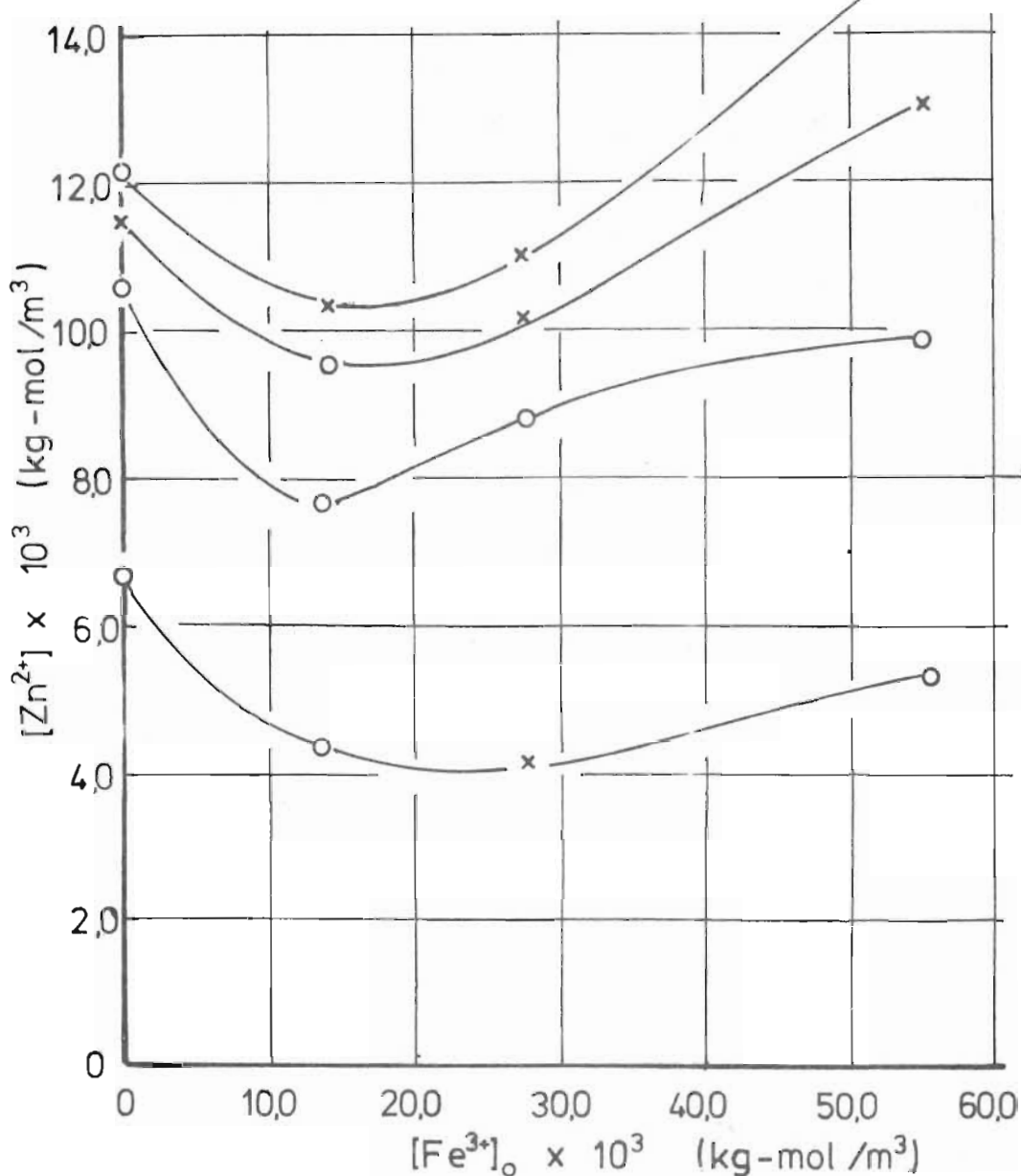


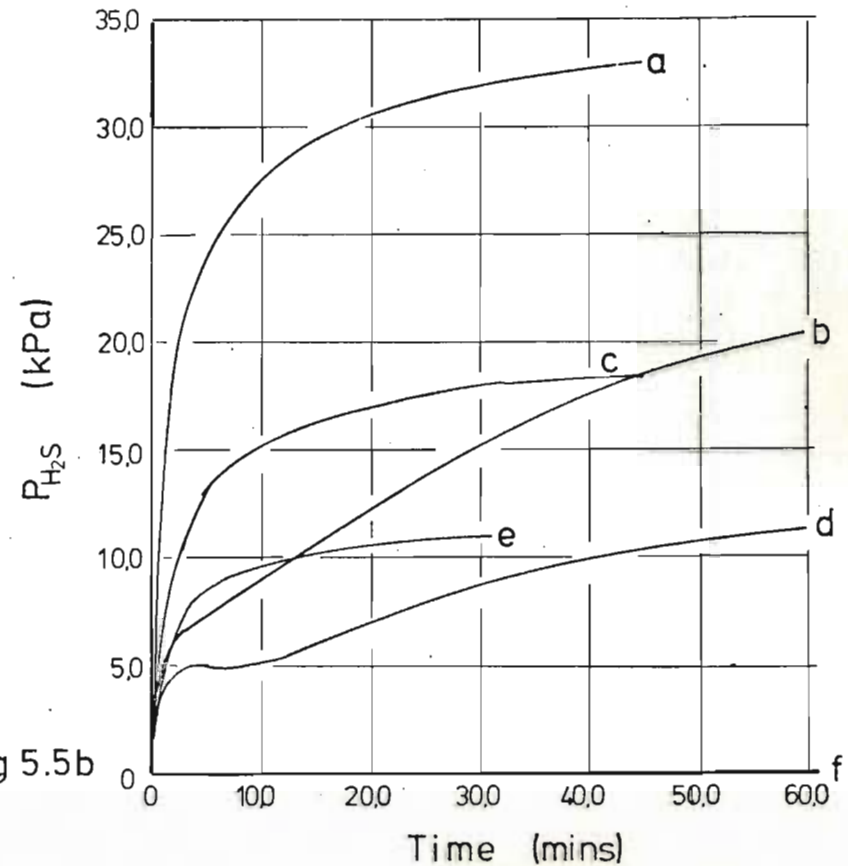
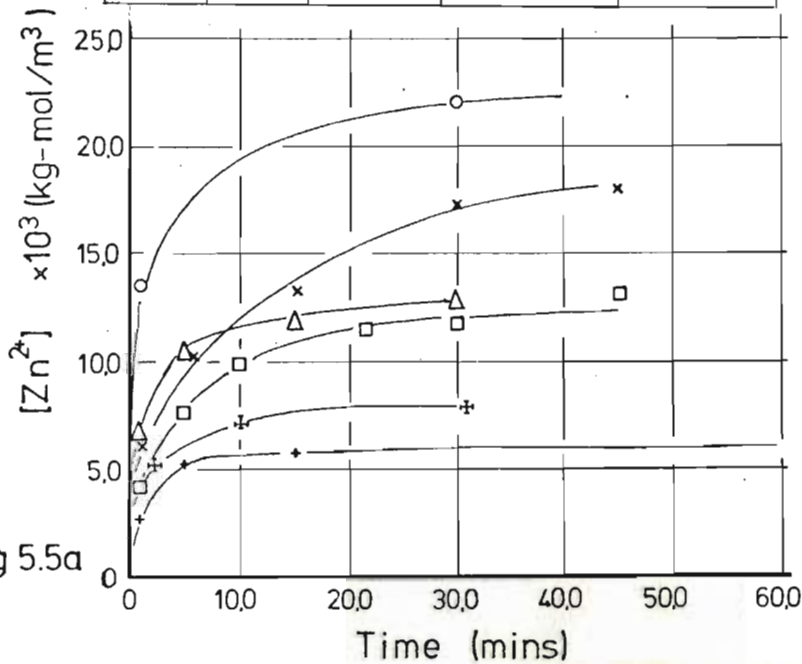
Figure 5.4 Effect of initial  $[Fe^{3+}]$  on the amount of  $Zn^{2+}$  produced from VMWBM sphalerite during different time intervals.

Best fit through exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  data.  
(on fig 5.5a)

Point (-)	Curve (-)	Data on table	$[Fe^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	$[H_2SO_4]_0$
o	a	I 9	0	2,0
x	b	L 6	13,75	2,0
Δ	c	I 2	0	1,0
□	d	L 2	13,75	1,0
+	e	I 8	0	0,5
*	f	L 1	13,75	0,5

Temp. (K)	318,0	<u>conditions</u>
$M_0$ (kg)	0,01	
Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0	

Legend



Figures 5.5a and 5.5b Comparison between case(i) and case(iii) exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  results for VMWBM sphalerite at different  $[H_2SO_4]_0$  values.

present, at three different  $H_2SO_4$  concentrations. From figure 5.5 a it is observed that the apparent suppression of the initial leaching rate resulting from adding  $Fe^{3+}$ , increases with increasing  $[H_2SO_4]_0$ . From figure 5.5 b it is observed that as the  $[H_2SO_4]_0$  decreases, so the measurable amount of  $H_2S$  formed decreases (and in fact was zero at  $[H_2SO_4]_0 = 0,5$ ).

#### 5.2.2 VMZCR SPHALERITE LEACHING UNDER CASE (iii) CONDITIONS

Figures 5.6 a and 5.6 b plot the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time and  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves for the VMZCR sphalerite leaching without and with  $Fe^{3+}$  initially present. On figure 5.6 b the  $P_{H_2S}$  is observed to increase to maximum (with  $Fe^{3+}$  initially present), before decreasing to a non-zero minimum value. It is probable that during vibratory milling of the acid pre-treated ZCR sphalerite to produce the VMZCR sphalerite,  $CO_2$  forming gangue was liberated. The formation of an inert gas such as  $CO_2$  would account for the non-zero minimum observed on figure 5.6 b.

From figure 5.6 a it is observed that addition of  $Fe^{3+}$  apparently suppressed <sup>the</sup> dissolution rate, but to a significantly less extent for a given  $Fe^{3+}$  concentration than in the case of the VMWBM sphalerite (figure 5.3 a).

(on fig 5.6a)

Best fit through exptl  $[Zn^{2+}]$  data.

Legend

Point (-)	Curve (-)	Data on table	$[Fe^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
o	a	I17	0
x	b	L14	28,67
$\Delta$	c	L15	57,30

Conditions

$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Temp. (K)	318,0
$M_0$ (kg)	0,01
Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0

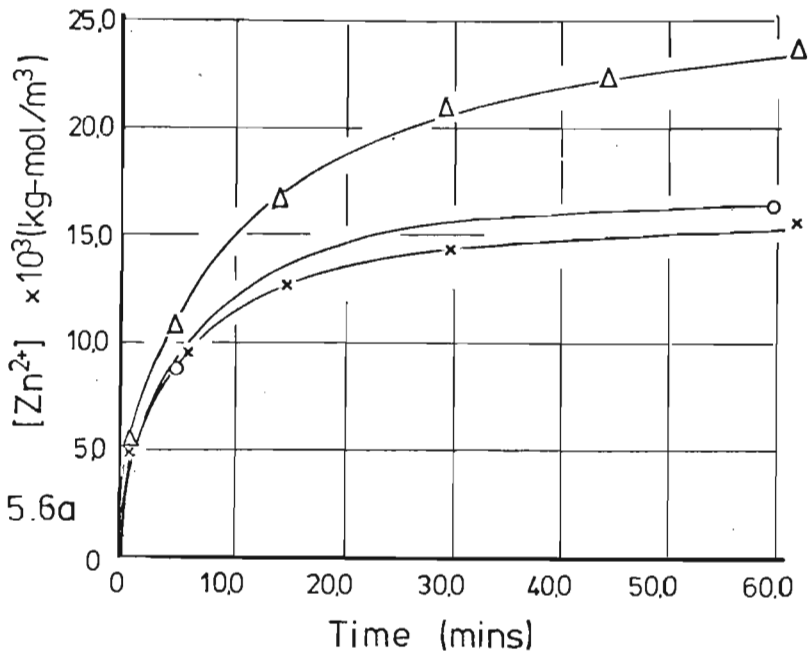


Fig 5.6a

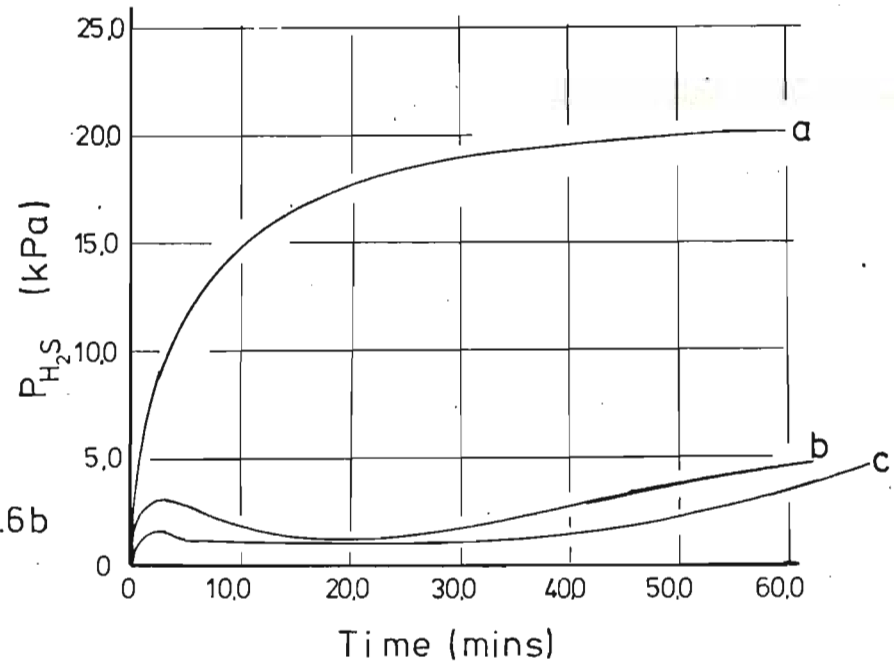


Fig 5.6b

Figures 5.6a and 5.6b Comparison between case (i) and case (iii) exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  leaching data for VMZCR sphalerite.



5.2.3 BDH SPHALERITE LEACHING UNDER  
CASE (iii) CONDITIONS

Figures 5.7 a and 5.7 b plot the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time and  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves for the BDH sphalerite leaching without and with  $Fe^{3+}$  initially present. It is observed on figure 5.7 a that the initial rate is suppressed significantly as a result of adding  $Fe^{3+}$  to the system.

On figure 5.7 b it is observed that for  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 0,1147 \text{ kg-mol/m}^3$ , the  $P_{H_2S}$  rapidly goes through a very small maximum and decreases to a constant non-zero value. It may be possible that an inert gas was formed, but it is more likely that during the reaction start-up experimental error resulted in a shift in the zero base line.

5.2.4 VMPR SPHALERITE LEACHING UNDER  
CASE (iii) CONDITIONS

Figures 5.8 a and 5.8 b plot  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time and  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves for VMPR sphalerite leaching under case (iii) conditions. It is observed on figure 5.8 a that adding  $Fe^{3+}$  progressively increases the initial leaching rate.

According to the overall reaction stoichiometry:



Thus for  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 14,32 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $28,67 \times 10^{-3}$   
 $\text{kg-mol/m}^3$ ,  $[Zn^{2+}] = 7,16 \times 10^{-3}$  or  $14,335 \times 10^{-3}$



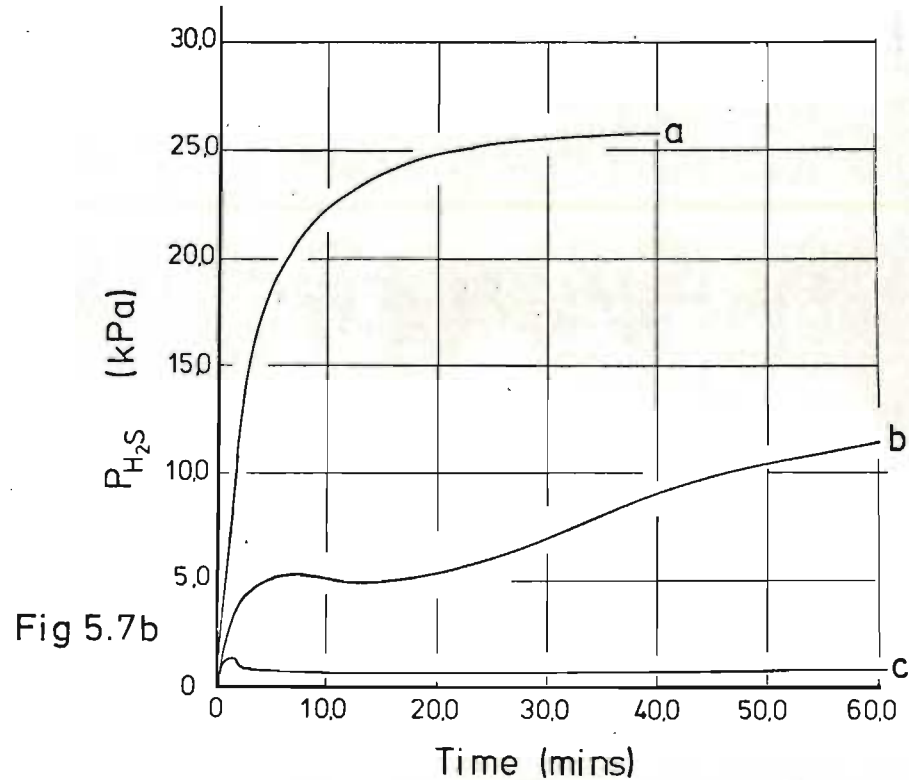
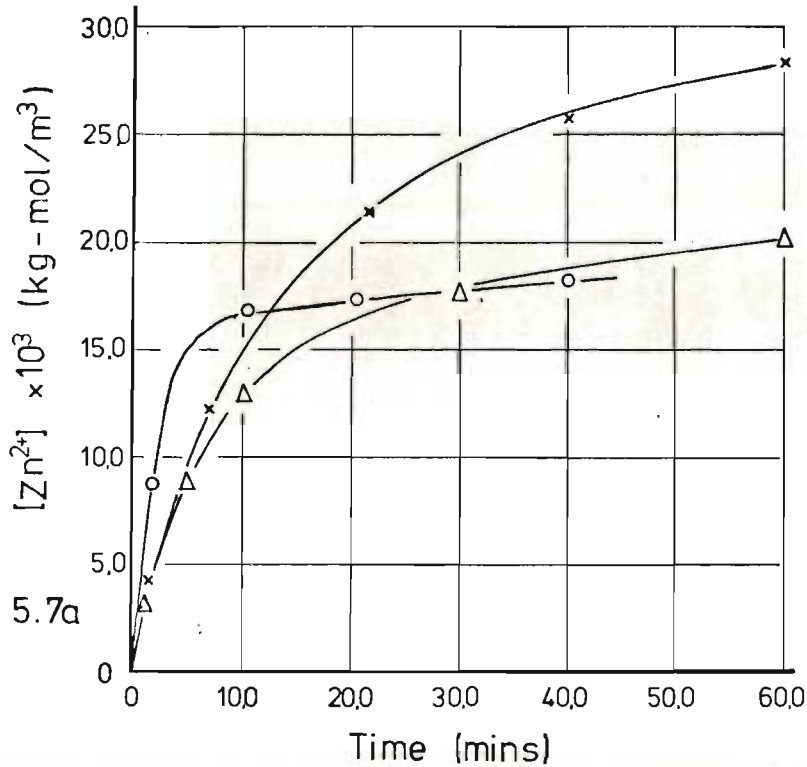
(on fig 5.7a) Best fit through exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  data.

legend

Point	Curve	Data on table	$[Fe^{3+}]_o \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
o	a	I36	0
Δ	b	L16	28,67
x	c	L17	114,57

conditions

$[H_2SO_4]$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Temp. (K)	318,0
$M_o$ (kg)	0,004
Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0



Figures 5.7a and 5.7b Comparison between case(i) and case(ii) exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  leaching data for BDH sphalerite.

(on fig 5.8a)

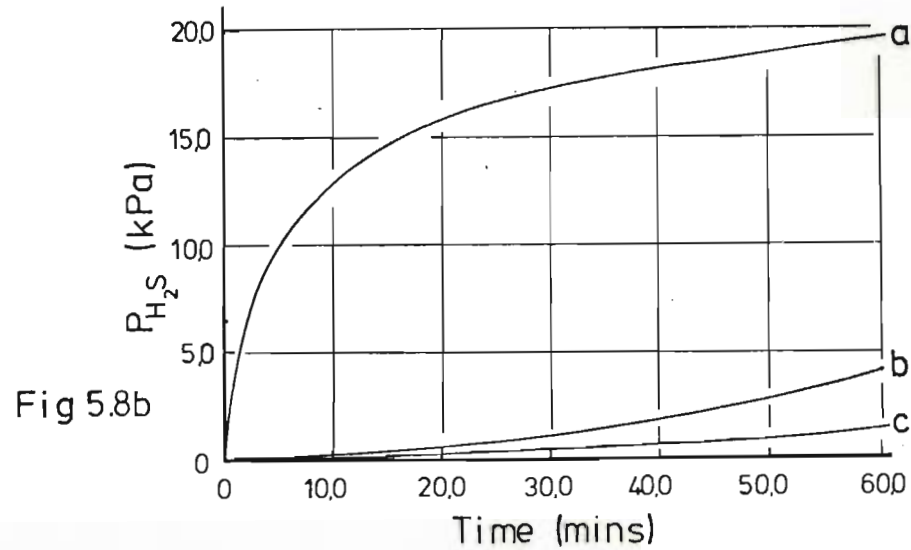
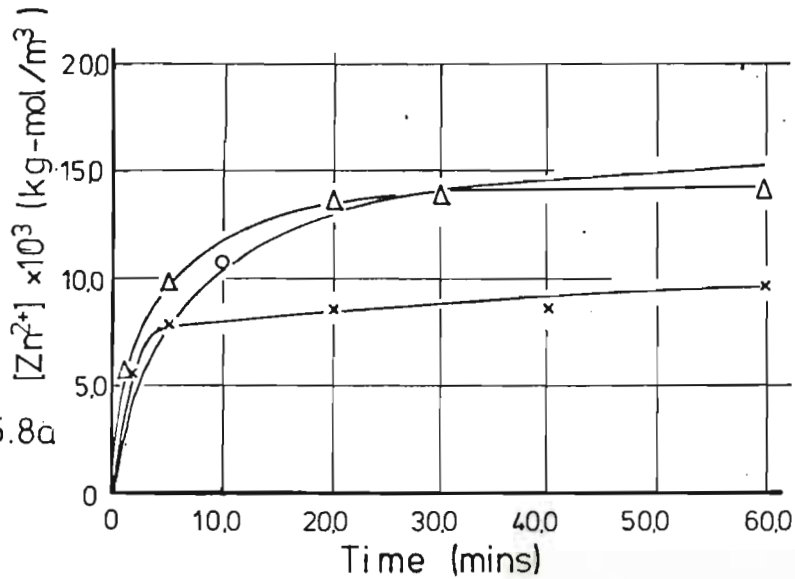
Best fit through exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  data.

legend

Point (-)	Curve (-)	Data on table	$[Fe^{3+}]_o \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
o	a	I 27	0
x	b	L 18	14,32
Δ	c	L 19	28,67

conditions

$[H_2SO_4]_o$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Temp. (K)	318,0
$M_o$ (kg)	0,01
Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0



Figures 5.8a and 5.8b Comparison between case(i) and case(iii) exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  leaching data for VMPR sphalerite.

kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup> will be leached into solution respectively.

It is seen on figure 5.8 a that the leaching rates decrease rapidly as these  $[Zn^{2+}]$  values are approached. On figure 5.8 b it is observed that negligible measurable H<sub>2</sub>S is initially formed.

5.2.5 COMPARISON BETWEEN THE LEACHING OF  
VMWBM, VMZCR, BDH AND VMPR SPHALERITES  
UNDER CASE (iii) CONDITIONS

Figure 5.9 a plots  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time for the four different sphalerites each leaching with  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 28,0 \times 10^{-3}$  kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>. Figure 5.9 b plots  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time for the four sphalerites leaching without Fe<sup>3+</sup> and with  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 28,0 \times 10^{-3}$  kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>.

It is observed on figure 5.9 b that the added Fe<sup>3+</sup> has least effect on the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curve for the BDH sphalerite. At time  $t = 5,0$  mins it is observed that the  $P_{H_2S}$  for the different sphalerites increases in the order -  
 VMPR < VMZCR < VMWBM < BDH .

On figure 5.9 a it can be seen that at time  $t = 5,0$  mins, the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  varied between 0,009 and 0,01 kg-moles/m<sup>3</sup> for each of the sphalerites. These results suggest that under the case (iii) condition being considered here, the BDH sphalerite leached non-oxidatively to a significant extent as well as oxidatively, whilst the VMPR sphalerite leached mainly non-oxidatively. The proportion of the dissolution occurring non-oxidatively for the four sphalerites

Legend

Sphal. type	Point (-)	Curve (-)	Data on table	[Fe <sup>3+</sup> ] × 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	M <sub>0</sub> (kg)
VMWBM		a	I 2	0	0,01
VMWBM	Δ	b	L 3	27,50	0,01
VMZCR		c	I 17	0	0,01
VMZCR	*	d	L 14	28,67	0,01
VMPR		e	I 27	0	0,01
VMPR	□	f	L 19	28,67	0,01
BDH		g	I 36	0	0,004
BDH	+	h	L 17	28,67	0,004

(on fig 5.9a) Best fit through exptl. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] data.

conditions

[H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] <sub>0</sub> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Temp. (K)	318,0
Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0

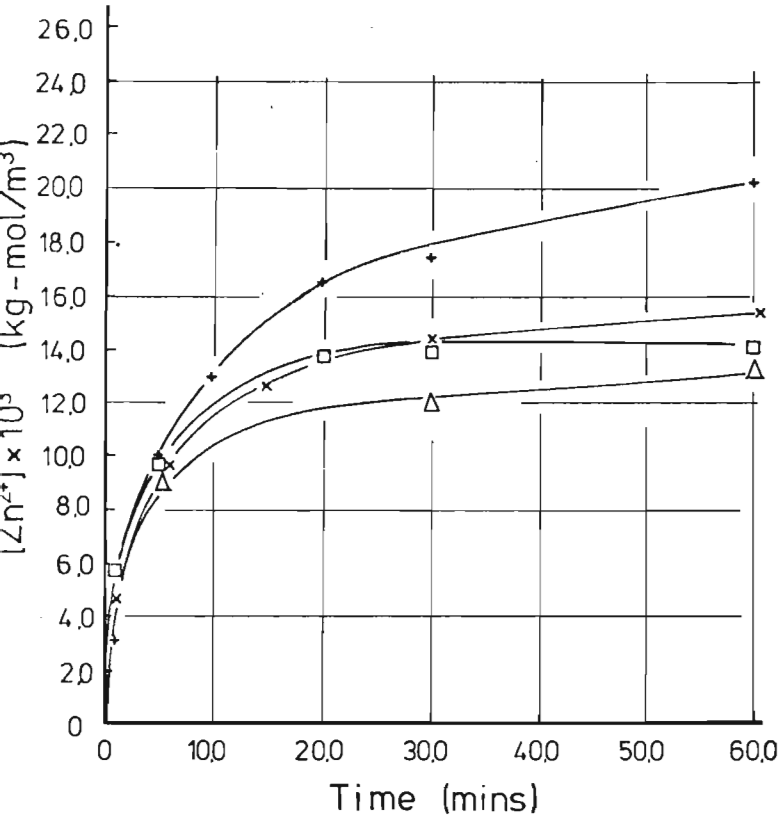


Fig 5.9a

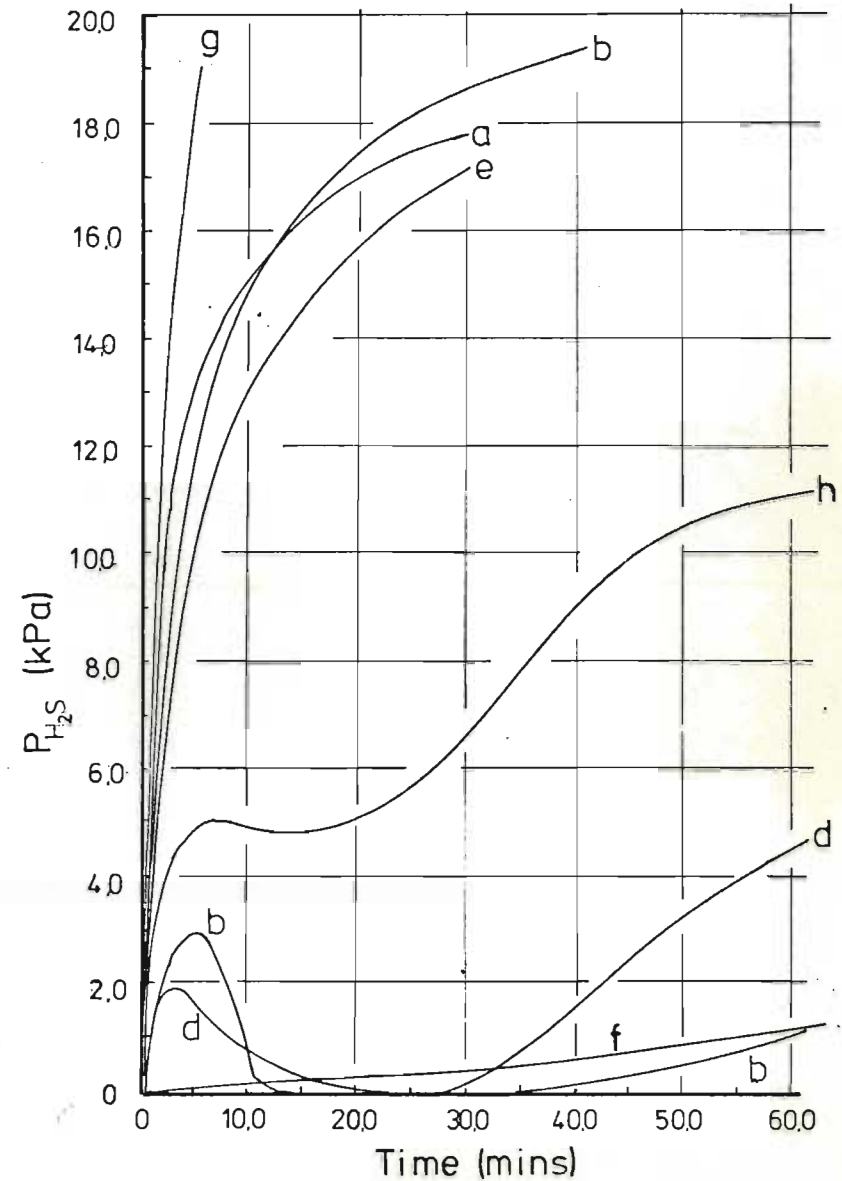


Fig 5.9b

Figures 5.9a and 5.9b Comparison of the exptl. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] and P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>S</sub> rate curves for the VMWBM, VMZCR, VMPR and BDH sphalerites leaching under case(iii) conditions. (P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>S</sub> curves for leaching under case(i) conditions are also plotted.)

thus appears to increase in the order -  
 BDH < VMWBM < VMZCR < VMPR .

5. 3 OVERALL DISCUSSION OF RESULTS  
REPORTED IN SECTIONS 5.1 AND 5.2

It is proposed that many of the phenomena observed in sections 5.1 and 5.2 may be explained in terms of Langmuir-Hinshelwood adsorption theories. In particular it is proposed that the four sphalerites exhibit different capacities to adsorb ferric ions, with the  $Fe^{3+}$  adsorption capacities varying as follows :-

BDH < VMWBM < VMZCR  $\ll$  VMPR .

Evidence to support this proposal is as follows :-

- a) In section 3.3 it was demonstrated that the rates of leaching these sphalerites under case (ii) conditions increases in the order proposed above.
- b) In section 5.1 it was shown that (apart from the VMZCR sphalerite) the sphalerites catalysed the oxidation reaction in the above mentioned order.
- c) In section 5.2.5 it was demonstrated that for the four different sphalerites leaching under case (iii) conditions, the proportion of the dissolution which occurs non-oxidatively increases for the sphalerites in the order shown above.

However, it is difficult to explain why the initial rates of dissolution are suppressed with small additions of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , (see figure 5.4). It is possible that electrokinetic theories could explain this phenomena more satisfactorily than adsorption theories.

CHAPTER 6MISCELLANEOUS ADDITIONAL RELEVANT OBSERVATIONS

The purpose of this chapter is to present additional relevant qualitative results, which could not be conveniently included elsewhere in this thesis.

6.1 SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPIC (S.E.M.)  
AND OPTICAL MICROSCOPIC (O.M.)  
PHOTOGRAPHS OF VARIOUS UNLEACHED AND  
LEACHED SPHALERITE PARTICLES

Figures 6.1 to 6.13 present S.E.M. photographs of WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerite particles:-

- a) before leaching (figures 6.1, 6.2, 6.4 and 6.9) ;
- b) after leaching under case (ii) conditions but before washing with  $\text{CCl}_4$  so that elemental sulphur formed in-situ is visible, (figures 6.6, 6.7, 6.10 and 6.12) ;
- c) after leaching under case (ii) conditions



and after washing with  $\text{CCl}_4$  to remove all elemental sulphur, (figures 6.3, 6.5, 6.8, 6.11 and 6.13).

The captions provide full descriptions for each of the S.E.M. photographs.

Figures 6.14 to 6.16 present O.M. photographs of polished sections of WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerite particles, demonstrating in particular the internal cracks and pores present inside particles. The captions further describe these photographs.

Figures 6.17 and 6.18 present O.M. photographs of etched ZCR and PR sphalerite polished sections. Preferential zones of leaching are observed, particularly in the vicinity of the chalcopyrite inclusions in the case of the PR sphalerite. These photographs are also further described in their captions.

The following general observations may be made and conclusions drawn from inspecting all the photographs.

- 1) The WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerite particles all possess rough external surfaces, and contain significant numbers of internal cracks or pores. This helps explain the results presented in Appendix F which show that the measured B.E.T. areas for these sphalerites are much larger than one would expect, had they been considered solid spheres; the excess area being contributed by external roughness, and

internal cracks or pores.

- 2) The surfaces of the leached particles appear much rougher than those of the unleached particles (especially for the PR sphalerite). This explains why the B.E.T. areas of leached particles increased when leaching the PR and ZCR sphalerites (figures F5 and F6).

It is difficult, however, to explain why the WBM sphalerite B.E.T. area decreased during leaching approximately according to the shrinking core model prediction (figure F4).

- 3) Figures 6.7, 6.10 and 6.12 show that for PR, ZCR and WBM sphalerites leaching to similar extents in acidic ferric sulphate media -

- (i) the PR sphalerite forms a very dense sulphur coating;
- (ii) the ZCR sphalerite forms elemental sulphur coatings in specific zones of the particle;
- (iii) the WBM sphalerite appears to form pits and cracks filled with elemental sulphur.

In each case elemental sulphur on the surface is distinctly visible.

- 4) From figures 6.16 and 6.17 it is evident that the PR sphalerite contains large amounts of chalcopyrite inclusions. From figures 6.17 and 6.18 it is evident that PR and ZCR sphalerites demonstrate complex etching patterns. In the case of the PR sphalerite, etching takes place preferentially in the vicinity of chalcopyrite inclusion zones.

(facing figs. 6.1 to 6.5)

FIGURE 6.1

S.E.M. photograph of unleached WBM sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction). Magnification: 200,0 x

FIGURE 6.2

S.E.M. photograph of unleached ZCR sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction). Magnification: 200,0 x

FIGURE 6.3

S.E.M. photograph of CCl<sub>4</sub> washed leached ZCR sphalerite particles (from -90,0 + 75,0 $\mu$ m size fraction). Particles taken from final leach residue of experiment reported on table J21. Extent leached: X = 0,68  
Magnification: 200,0 x

FIGURE 6.4

S.E.M. photograph of unleached PR sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction). Magnification: 200,0 x

FIGURE 6.5

S.E.M. photograph of CCl<sub>4</sub> washed leached PR sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction). Particles taken from final residue of experiment reported on table J39. Extent leached: X = 0,33  
Magnification: 200,0 x



Figure 6.1  $1000\ \mu\text{m}$



Figure 6.2  $100,0\ \mu\text{m}$



Figure 6.3  $100,0\ \mu\text{m}$

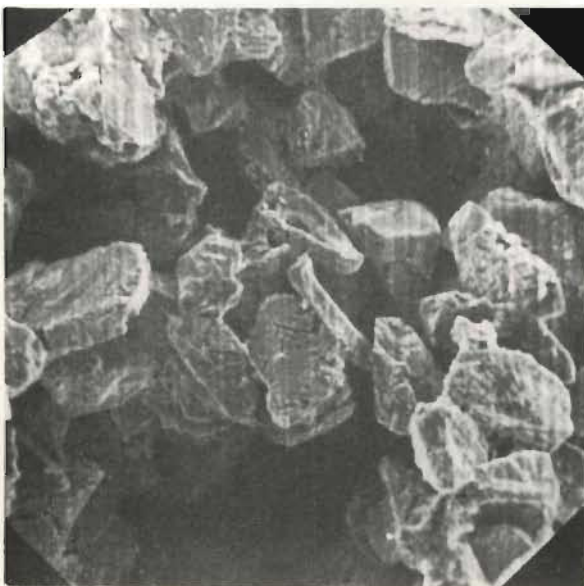


Figure 6.4  $100,0\ \mu\text{m}$

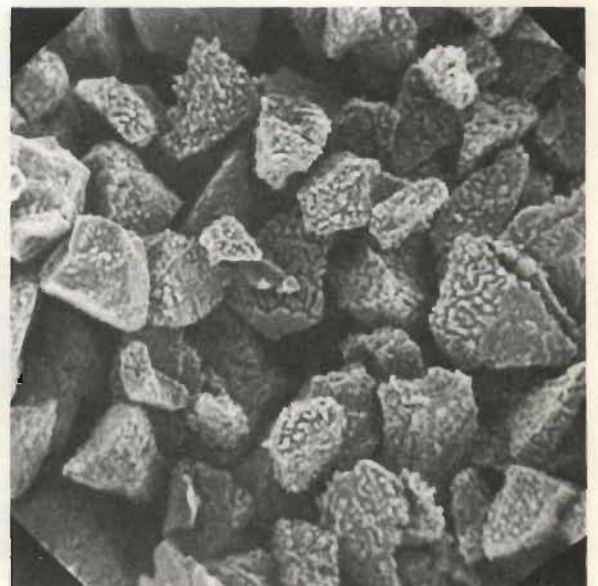


Figure 6.5  $100,0\ \mu\text{m}$



(facing figures 6.6 to 6.11)

FIGURE 6.6

S.E.M. photograph of the unwashed surface of a single leached PR particle (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction), taken from leach reactor during experiment reported on table J37. The initial layer of elemental sulphur formed in-situ is clearly visible.

Extent leached:  $X = 0,017$

Magnification: 3000,0 x

FIGURE 6.7

S.E.M. photograph of an unwashed leached PR sphalerite particle (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction), taken from the final residue of the experiment reported in table J39. The elemental sulphur coating the particle is clearly visible.

Extent leached:  $X = 0,33$

Magnification: 780,0 x

FIGURE 6.8

S.E.M. photograph of a CCl<sub>4</sub> washed leached PR sphalerite particle (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction), taken from the final leach residue of the experiment reported in table J39. Preferential zones of leaching are a distinguishing feature.

Extent leached:  $X = 0,33$

Magnification: 1000,0 x

FIGURE 6.9

S.E.M. photograph of an unleached ZCR sphalerite particle (from -106,0 + 90,0 $\mu$ m size fraction).

Magnification: 1000,0 x

FIGURE 6.10

S.E.M. photograph of the unwashed surface of a single ZCR particle (from -90,0 + 75,0 $\mu$ m size fraction), taken from the final leach residue of experiment reported in table J22. Light areas on photograph represents unleached particle, whilst grey areas are in-situ elemental sulphur.

Extent leached:  $X = 0,38$

Magnification: 4000,0 x

FIGURE 6.11

S.E.M. photograph of the CCl<sub>4</sub> washed surface of a ZCR sphalerite particle (from -90,0 + 75,0 $\mu$ m size fraction) taken from the residue of the experiment reported in table J21.

Extent leached:  $X = 0,68$

Magnification: 1000,0 x

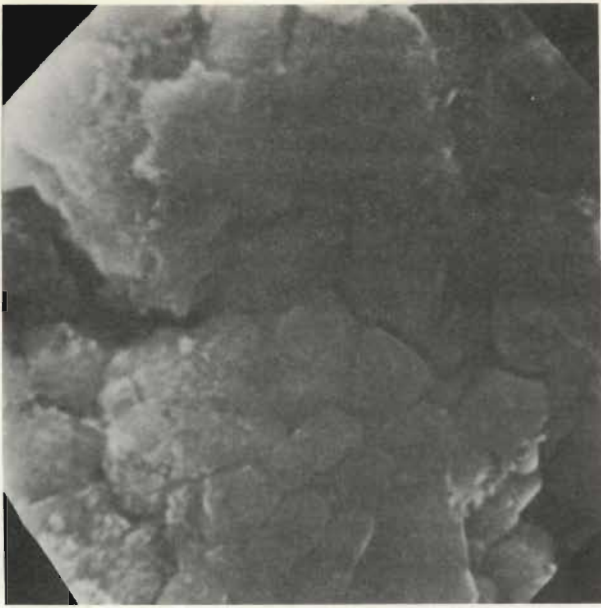


Figure 6.6 100 μm

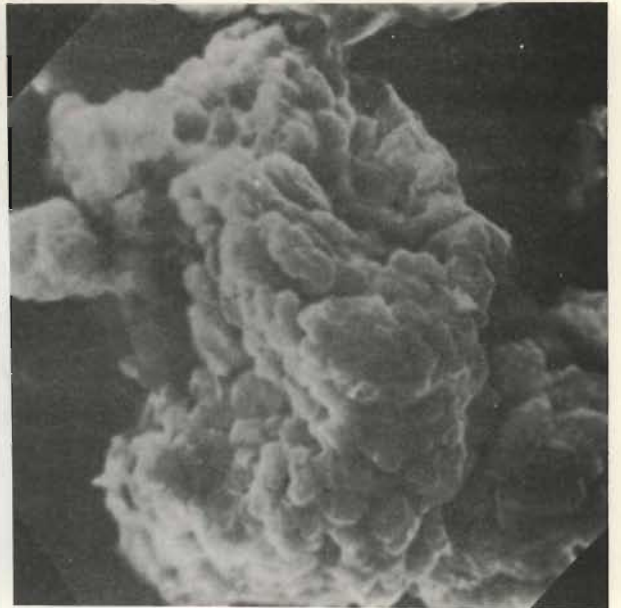


Figure 6.7 25.0 μm

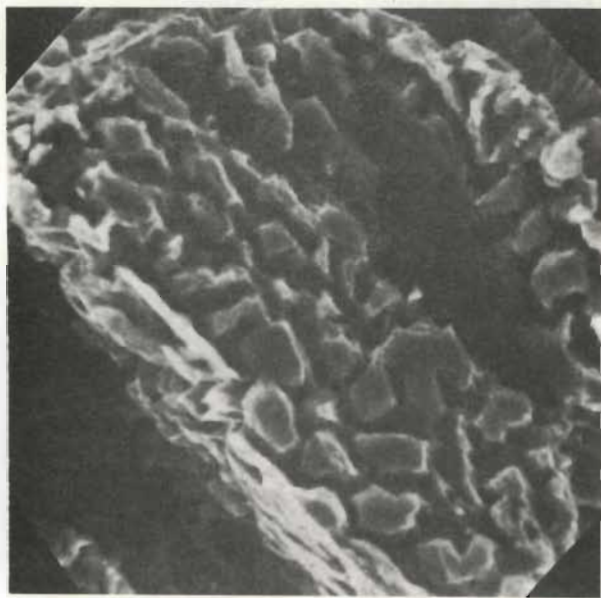


Figure 6.8 20.0 μm

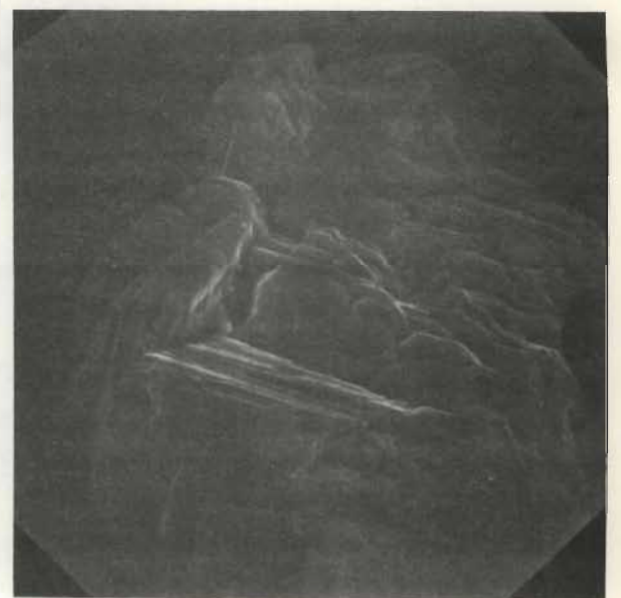


Figure 6.9 20.0 μm

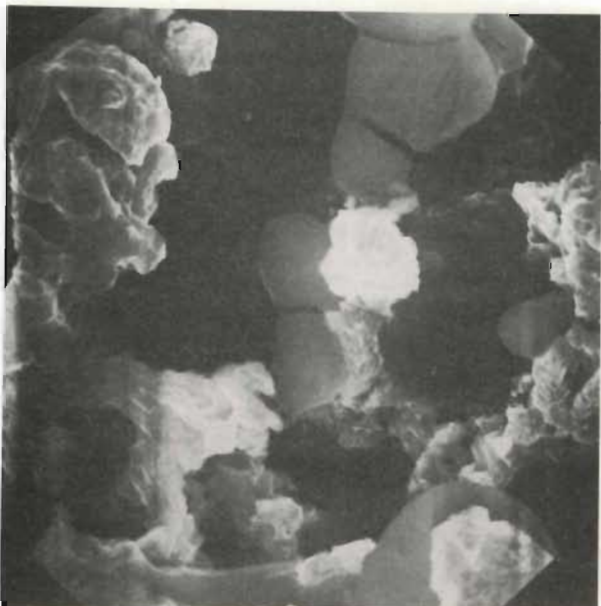


Figure 6.10 5.0 μm



Figure 6.11 20.0 μm



(facing figures 6.12 to 6.16)

- FIGURE 6.12 S.E.M. photograph of an unwashed leached WBM sphalerite particle (from -75,0 + 63,0µm size fraction), taken from the final leach residue of the experiment reported in table J5. Sulphur on the surface is visible.  
Extent leached :  $X = 0,38$   
Magnification : 1000,0 x
- FIGURE 6.13 S.E.M. photograph of a  $\text{CCl}_4$  washed leached WBM sphalerite particle (from -75,0 + 63,0µm size fraction), taken from the final leach residue of the experiment reported in table J4.  
Extent leached :  $X = 0,11$   
Magnification : 2000,0 x
- FIGURE 6.14 O.M. photograph of a polished section of WBM sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0µm size fraction). Internal cracks are visible.  
Magnification : Approx. 4000,0 x
- FIGURE 6.15 O.M. photograph of a polished section of ZCR sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0µm size fraction). Internal cracks are visible.  
Magnification : Approx. 4000,0 x
- FIGURE 6.16 O.M. photograph of a polished section of PR sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0µm size fraction) etched for 17,0 seconds with sodium hypochlorite. Bright spots represent chalcopyrite inclusions. Internal cracks are visible.  
Magnification : Approx. 4000,0 x



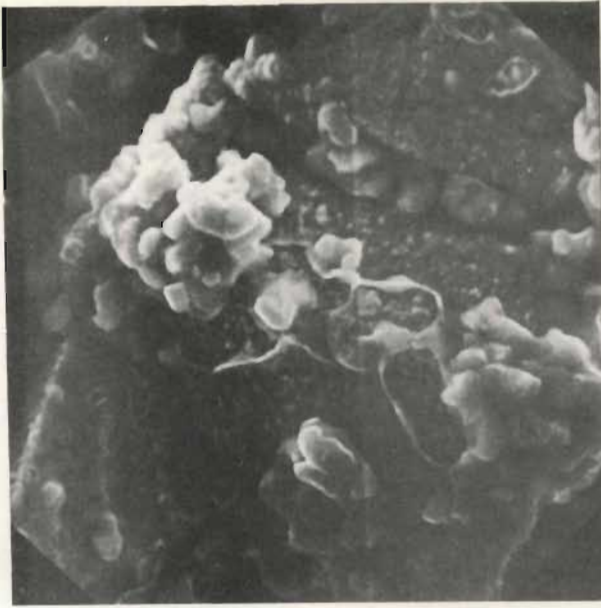


Figure 6.12  $20,0\mu\text{m}$

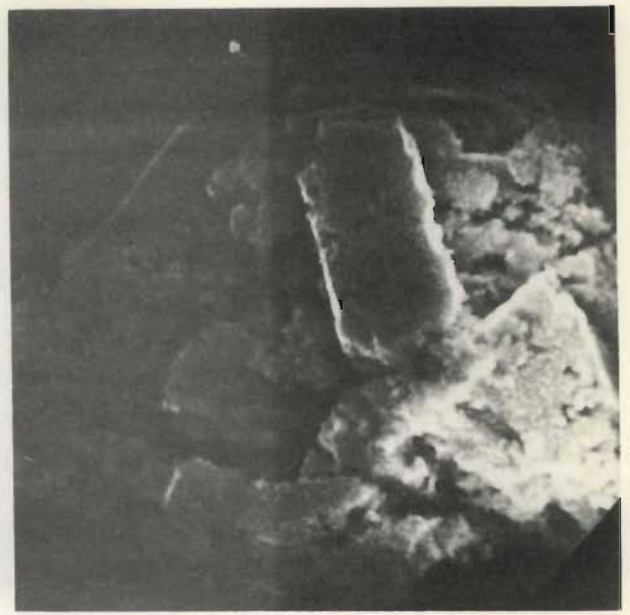


Figure 6.13  $10,0\mu\text{m}$



Figure 6.14



Figure 6.15

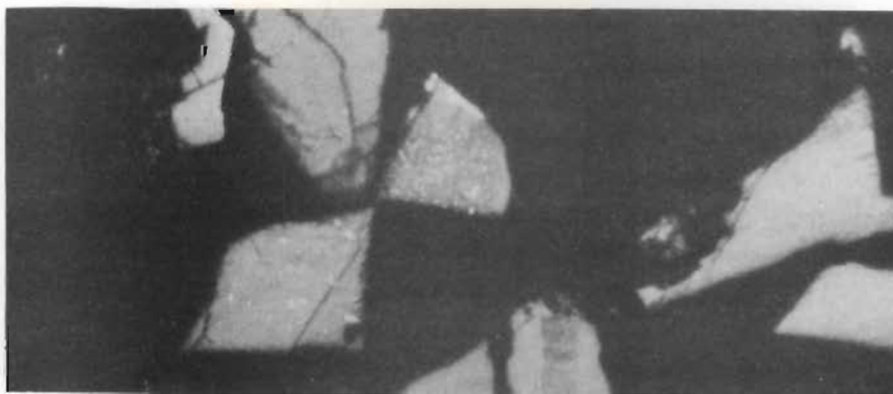


Figure 6.16

(facing figures 6.17 and 6.18)

FIGURE 6.17 O.M. photograph of a polished section of PR sphalerite particles (from -75,0 + 63,0 $\mu$ m size fraction), etched for 5,0 minutes with concentrated  $H_2SO_4$ . Bright spots represent chalcopyrite inclusions. Etching took place preferentially in the vicinity of the chalcopyrite zones.

Magnification : Approx. 400,0 x

FIGURE 6.18 O.M. photograph of a polished section of a single ZCR sphalerite particle (from -90,0 + 75,0 $\mu$ m size fraction), etched for 2,0 minutes with concentrated  $H_2SO_4$ . A complex etching pattern is observed.

Magnification : Approx. 800,0 x



Figure 6.17

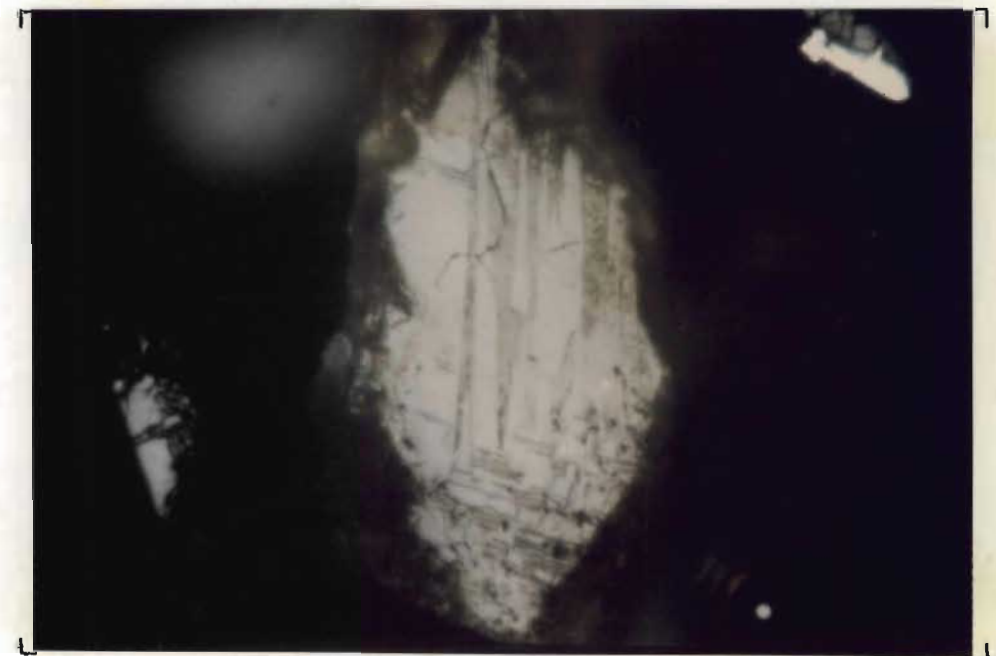


Figure 6.18

6. 2      RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FORMATION  
OF ZINC IONS AND ELEMENTAL SULPHUR  
FOR SPHALERITE LEACHING UNDER  
CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

Figure 6.19 plots  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus  $[S^0]$ . The zinc ion and elemental sulphur concentration were measured directly using the techniques described in Appendix D. The results of experiments using ZCR sphalerite (reported in tables J 18, J 20, J 21 and J 22) are not included on figure 6.19 as a soxhlet apparatus was not used to extract the sulphur in these experiments. The values of all the points plotted on figure 6.19 are presented in the tables of Appendix J.

It is observed that except for the BDH sphalerite, all the points lie closely scattered about a straight line which passes through the origin and has a slope of one.

This means that the molar concentrations of  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $S^0$  formed are approximately equal; and suggests that when leaching with relatively high  $[Fe^{3+}] : [H_2SO_4]$  ratios in the absence of oxygen, negligible  $S^0$  or  $S^{2-}$  are oxidised to sulphate species.

In the case of the BDH sphalerite the ratio  $[Zn^{2+}] : [S^0]$  is significantly greater than one. This was probably due to the fact that the BDH particles were much finer than those of any of the other sphalerites, and not all the  $S^0$  was extracted in a given time interval using  $CCl_4$  in a soxhlet apparatus.

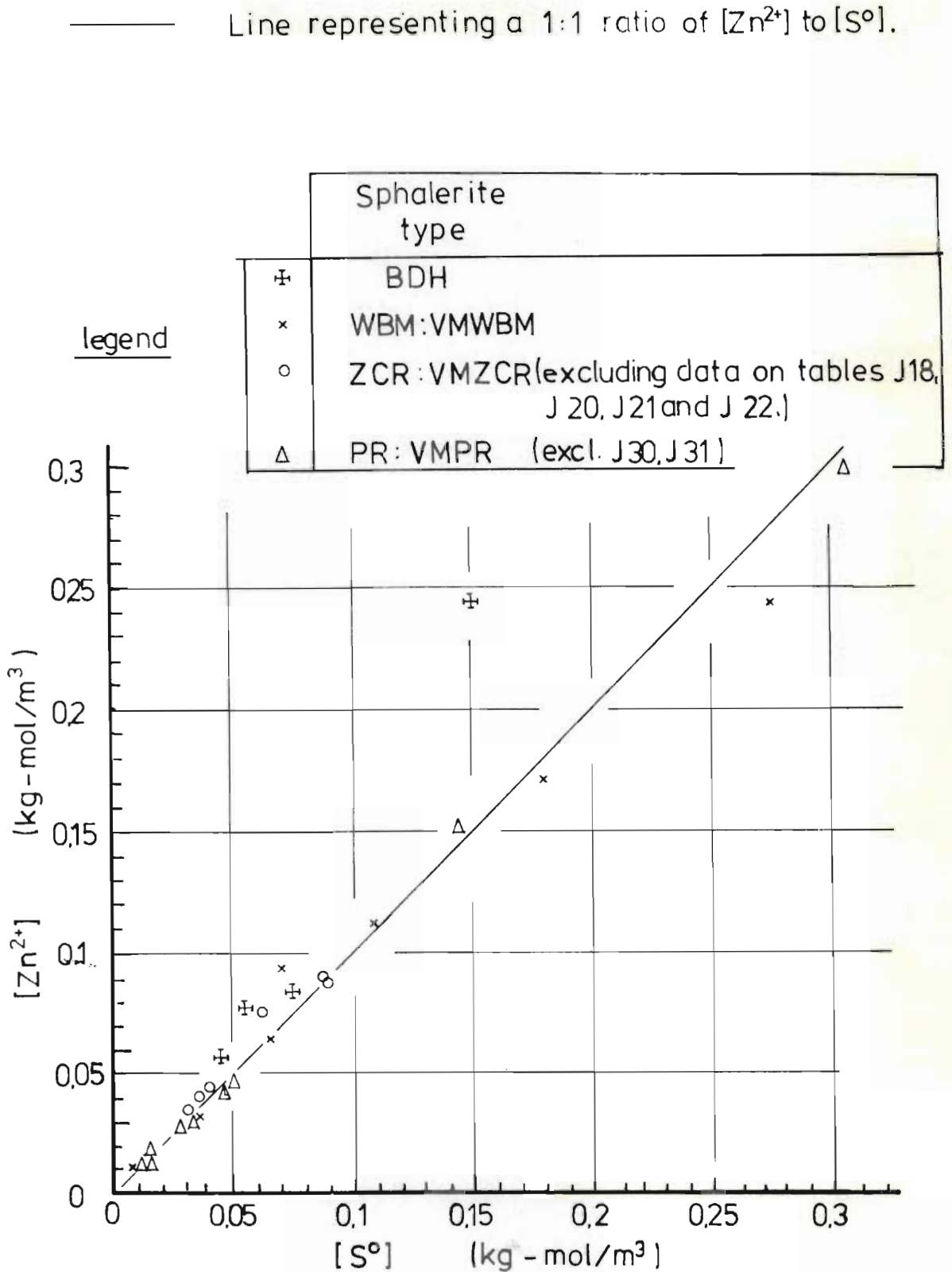


Figure 6.19 Plot of  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus elemental S recovered, demonstrating the stoichiometric production of  $S^0$  during the leaching of the various sphalerites under case (ii) conditions. All plotted data point values were extracted from the tables in Appendix J. See text for a more detailed description of the results presented on this figure.



From tables J44 to J47 it is observed that the  $[Zn^{2+}] : [S^0]$  ratio for the experiments using 0,05 kg BDH sphalerite was significantly greater than for the experiments using only 0,02 kg BDH sphalerite.

### 6.3 THE LEACHING OF VARIOUS SIZE FRACTIONS OF WBM, ZCR AND PR SPHALERITES IN $H_2SO_4$

In chapters 3 and 4 the leaching behaviour of the BDH and vibratory milled sphalerites under case (i) conditions were studied. In this chapter the leaching behaviour of various size fractions of the granular WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites in  $H_2SO_4$  are examined qualitatively. Table 6.1 summarises the conditions for such experiments.

Figures 6.20 to 6.22 plot  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time rate curves for three size fractions of the WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites respectively. Figure 6.23 plots the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time rate curves of one size fraction for each of these sphalerites. The following observations may be made :-

- a) The ZCR and PR sphalerites both exhibit apparant initial 'induction' periods during which the rates of dissolution progressively increase to a maximum and then decrease.
- b) The WBM sphalerite does not exhibit an induction period, but commences leaching at a maximum rate which progressively decreases with time.
- c) The initial leaching rates for the WBM

TABLE NO. (-)	SPHALERITE (-)	SIZE FRACTION $\times 10^6$ (m)
I 56	W B M	-125,0 + 106,0
I 61	W B M	- 75,0 + 53,0
I 62	W B M	- 17,0 + 12,0
I 63	Z C R	-125,0 + 106,0
I 64	Z C R	- 75,0 + 53,0
I 65	Z C R	- 17,0 + 12,0
I 66	P R	-125,0 + 106,0
I 67	P R	- 75,0 + 53,0
I 68	P R	- 17,0 + 12,0

Other conditions:

Temp. = 318,0 (K)

Stirrer = 1 000,0 (rpm)

$[H_2SO_4]_0$  = 1,0 (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>)

Initial Mass = 0,045 (kg)

T A B L E 6.1

SUMMARY OF EXPERIMENTS IN WHICH  
W B M , Z C R AND P R SPHALERITES WERE  
LEACHED IN  $H_2SO_4$



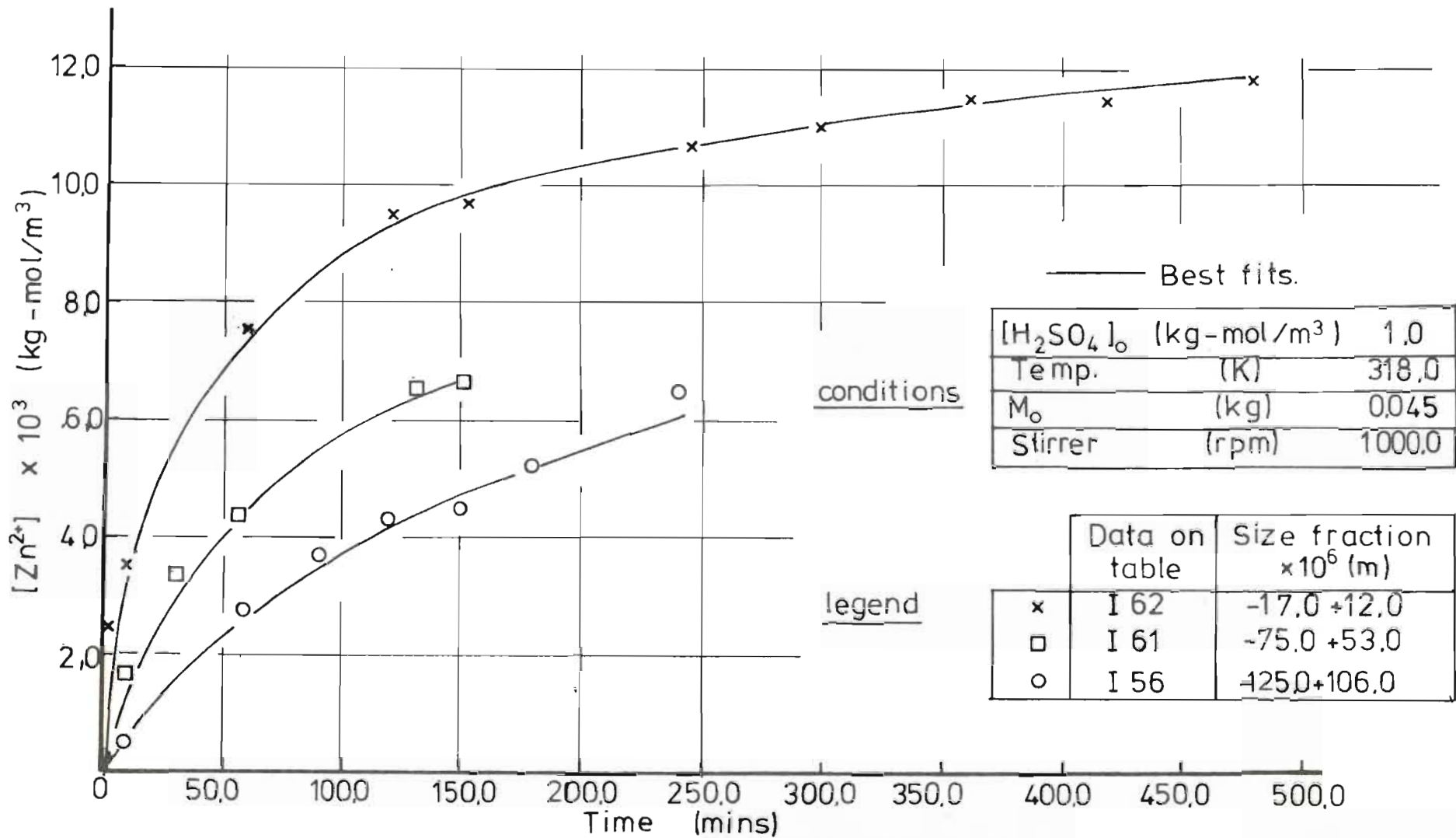
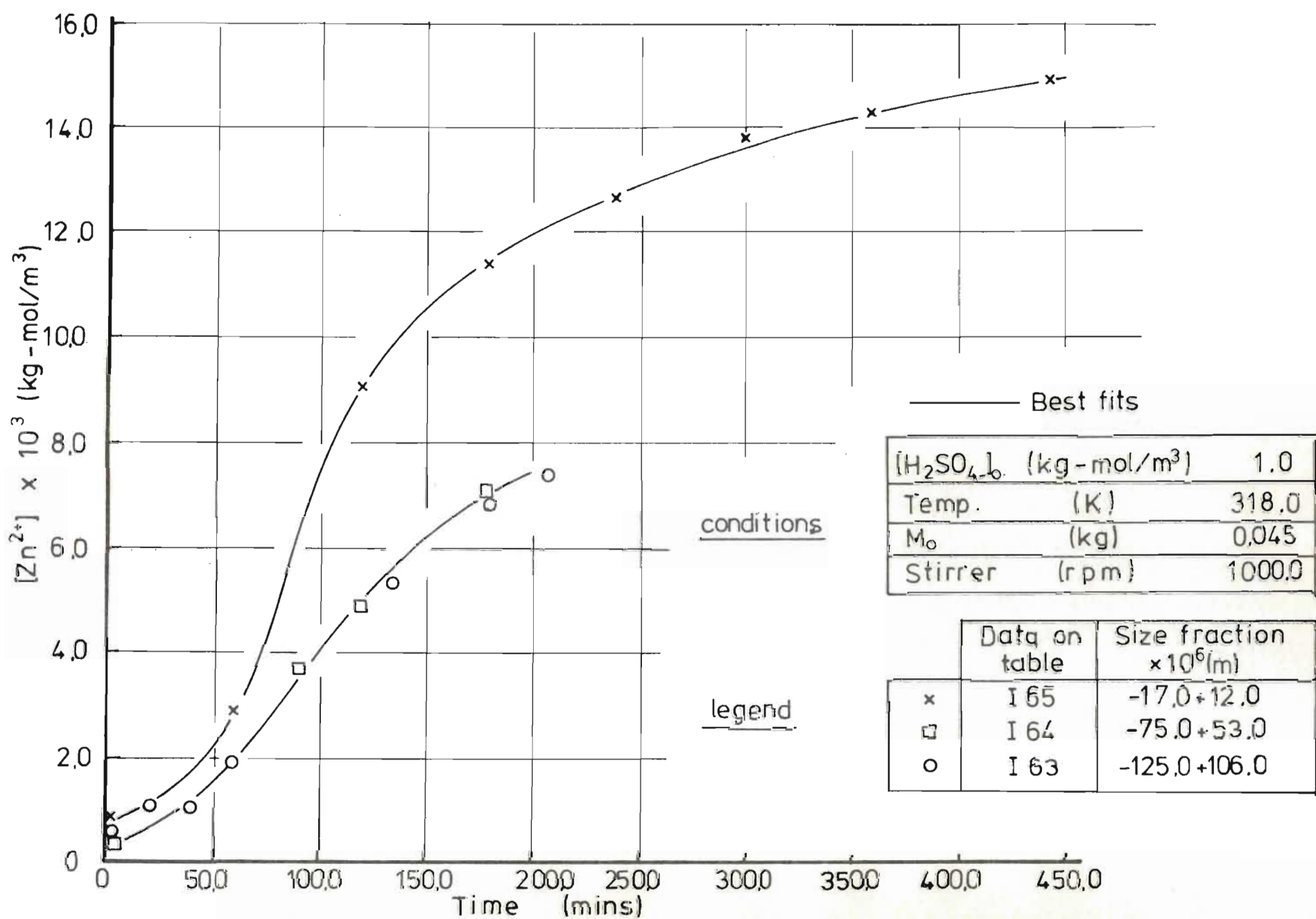


Figure 6.20 Exptl. rate curves for leaching various size fractions of WBM sphalerite under case(i) conditions ( $[Fe^{3+}]_0; [H_2SO_4]_0 = 0.0$ )


 Figure 6.21 Exptl. rate curves for leaching various size fractions of ZCR sphalerite in  $H_2SO_4$ .

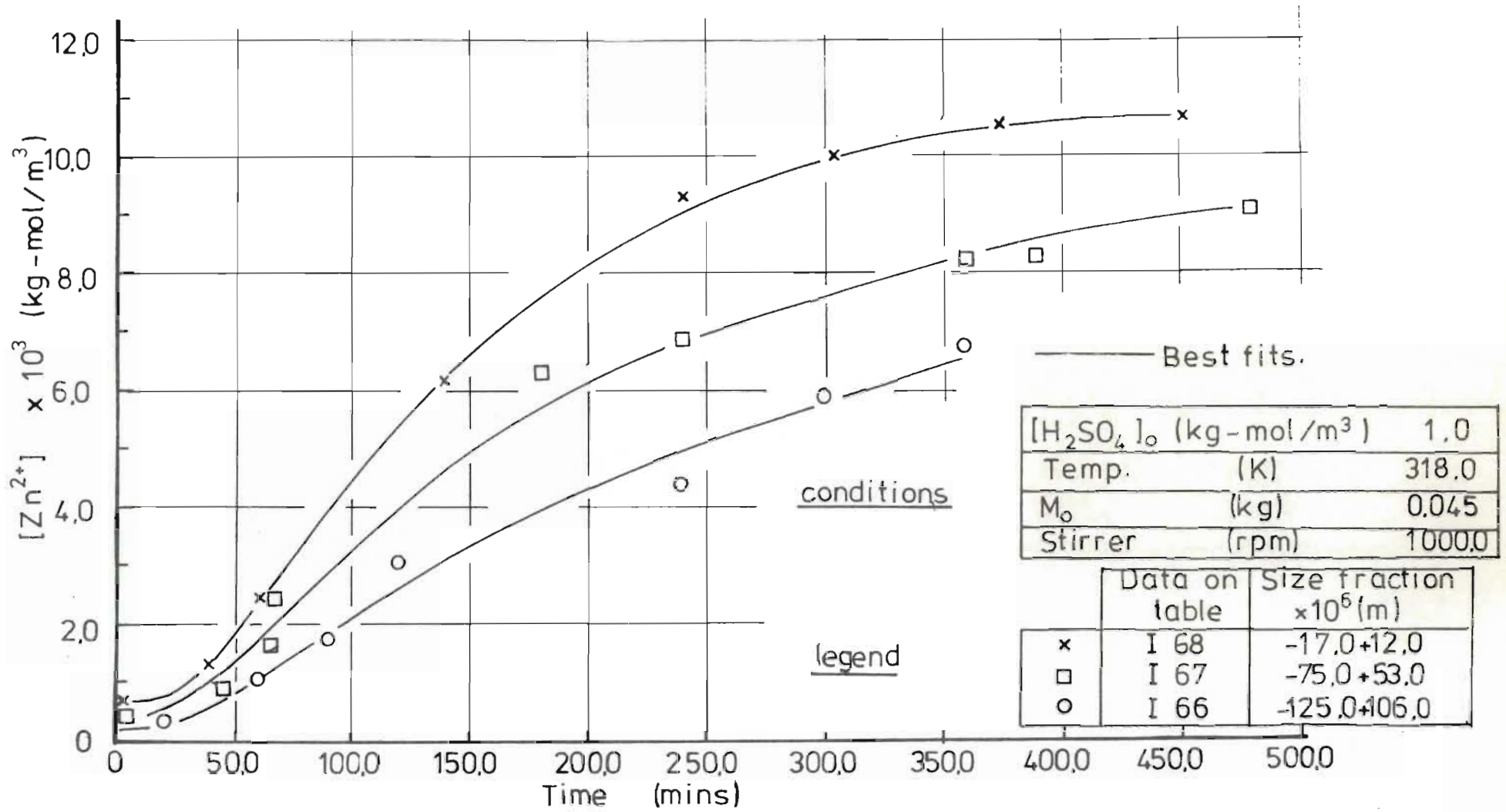


Figure 6.22 Exptl. rate curves for leaching various size fractions of PR sphalerite in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.

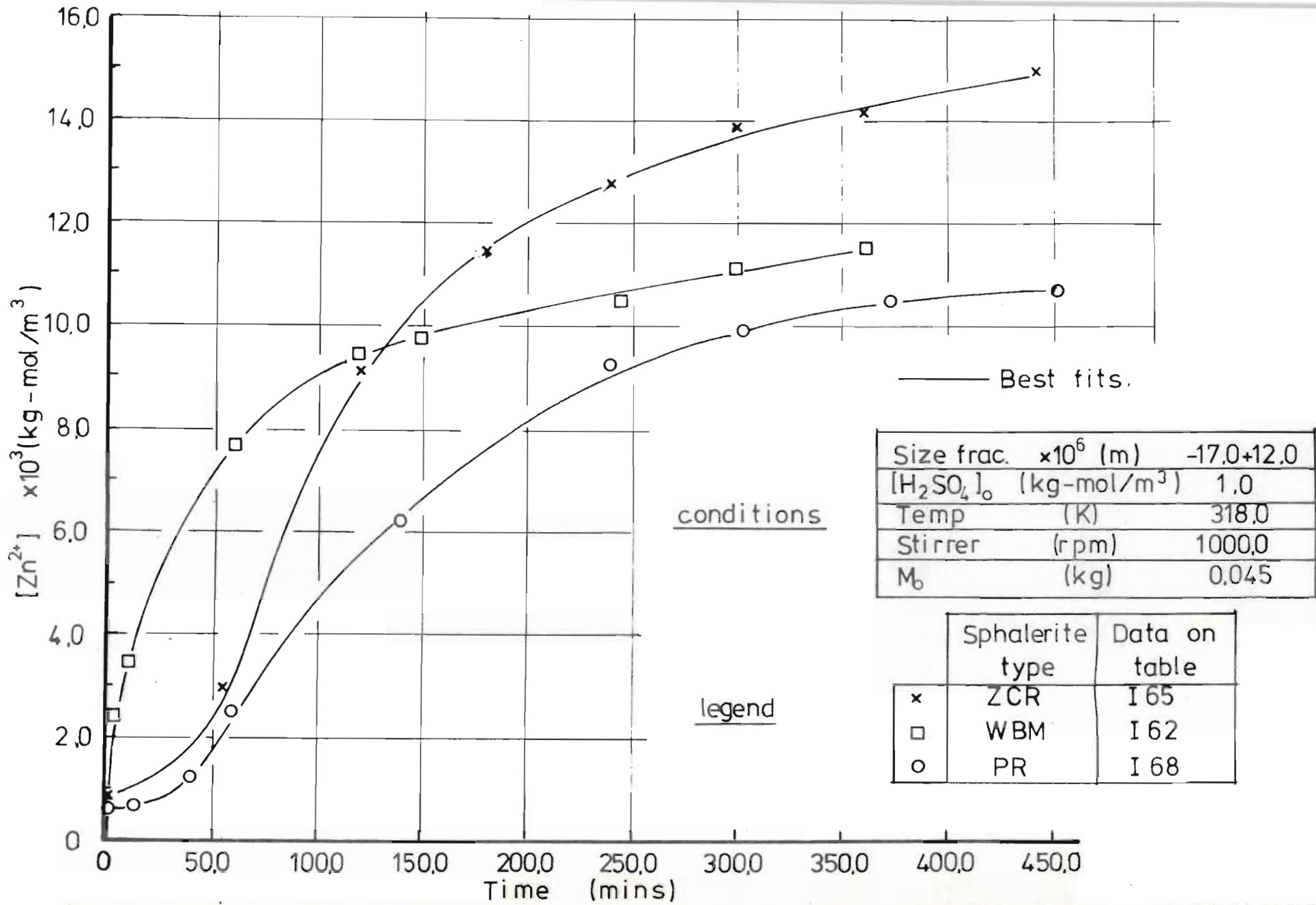


Figure 6.23 Comparison of the leaching rate curves for the -17.0+12.0  $\mu$ m size fraction of WBM, ZCR and PR leaching in  $H_2SO_4$ .

sphalerite are very much greater than those for the ZCR and PR sphalerites.

These observations are important when compared to the results of leaching the vibratory milled forms of these sphalerites. In chapter 3 it was shown that the VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites leached virtually identically in  $H_2SO_4$ . Furthermore, the VMPR sphalerite leached in  $H_2SO_4$  without exhibiting any apparent induction period.

These results demonstrate that milling the sphalerites very fine results in the elimination of large apparent differences in the  $H_2SO_4$  leaching behaviours of the WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites.

Figure 6.24 compares the leaching rate curves for  $-17,0 + 12,0\mu m$  WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites leaching under both case (i) and case (ii) conditions. From figures 6.24 the following observations may be made :-

- a) The characteristic apparent induction behaviour exhibited when leaching under case (i) conditions is completely absent when leaching under case (ii) conditions.
- b) Although  $[H_2SO_4]_0 = 1,0$  (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) and  $M_0 = 0,045$  kg for the case (i) experiments, and  $[H_2SO_4]_0 = 0,06$  (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) and  $M_0 = 0,02$  kg for the case (ii) experiments, the case (ii) leaching rates are very much greater than the case (i) leaching rates.

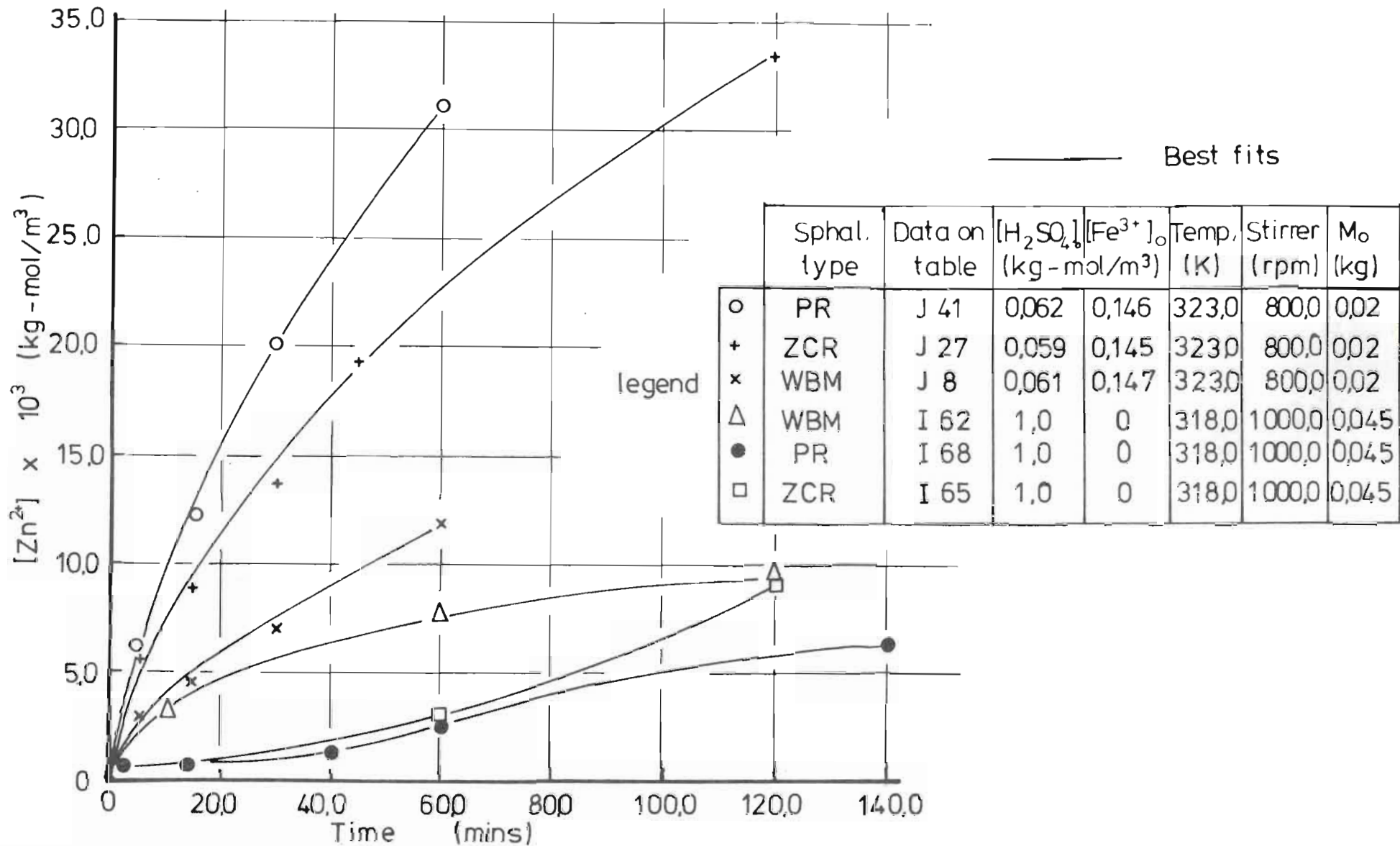


Figure 6.24 Comparison of rate curves for WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerite (-17.0+12.0µm size fraction) leaching under case(i) ([Fe<sup>3+</sup>]<sub>0</sub> = 0.0) and under case(ii) ([Fe<sup>3+</sup>]<sub>0</sub>: [H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>]<sub>0</sub> ≥ 1.8) conditions.



This evidence further disproves the theory that dissolution, under case (ii) conditions, takes place non-oxidatively, followed by the homogeneous oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ . Were this theory in fact correct, the case (ii) leaching rate curves on figure 6.24 would all have lay below the case (i) leaching rate curves.

- c) The PR sphalerite which leached slowest under case (i) conditions, leached fastest under case (ii) conditions. The rates which increase in the order  $PR < ZCR < WBM$  when leaching under case (i) conditions is completely reversed (i.e.  $WBM < ZCR < PR$ ) when leaching under case (ii) conditions.

These results suggest that in terms of the models presented in chapter 2 (based on Langmuir-Hinshelwood kinetics), the the adsorption of  $H^+$  by the sphalerites increases in the order  $PR < ZCR < WBM$ , but that the adsorption of  $Fe^{3+}$  by the sphalerites increases in the order  $WBM < ZCR < PR$ .

#### 6. 4 DISSOLUTION OF IRON AND COPPER FROM SPHALERITE

In several experiments conducted under case (i) conditions, attempts were made to measure the dissolved iron and copper as well as the zinc concentrations. Attempts to do this for experiments conducted under



case (ii) conditions were unsuccessful (owing to the large  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  initially present in relation to the very small amounts of iron dissolved).

No dissolved copper was detected for sphalerite leaching under case (i) conditions. However, in certain case (ii) experiments, technical grade ferric sulphate was dissolved, and dissolved copper was detected in the leach solution prior to adding the sphalerite. Upon adding the sphalerite, the copper concentration rapidly reduced to zero. It is proposed that the following reaction is responsible for preventing copper ions remaining in solution :-

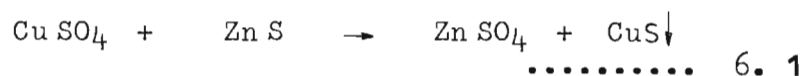


Figure 6. 25 plots the total concentration of dissolved iron ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  plus  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  species), i.e.  $[\text{Fe}]_{\text{TOT}}$  versus time for the -17,0 + 12,0 $\mu\text{m}$  size fraction of the WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites leaching in 1,0 molar  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ .

It is observed that iron enters solution significantly faster for the PR sphalerite than for the ZCR or WBM sphalerites. Hence only the dissolution of iron from PR sphalerite is considered further in this section.

Figures 6. 26 and 6. 27 superimpose the  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  versus time and  $[\text{Fe}]_{\text{TOT}}$  versus time rate curves for two size fractions of PR sphalerite, and for VMPR sphalerite, leaching under case (i) conditions.

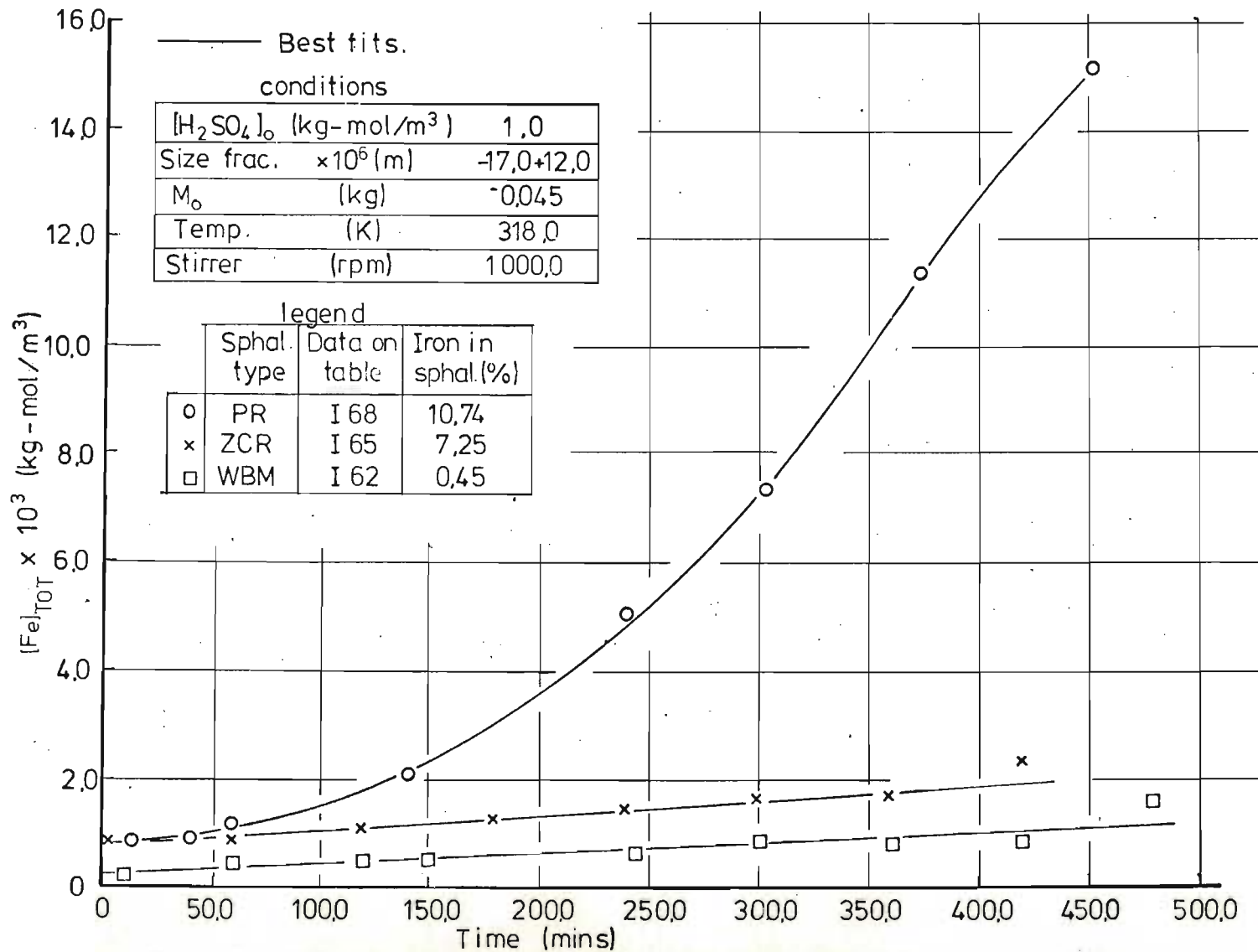


Figure 6.25 Experimental rate curves comparing the dissolution of iron during the leaching of PR, ZCR and WBM sphalerites (-170+12,0 $\mu$ m size fraction) in  $H_2SO_4$ .

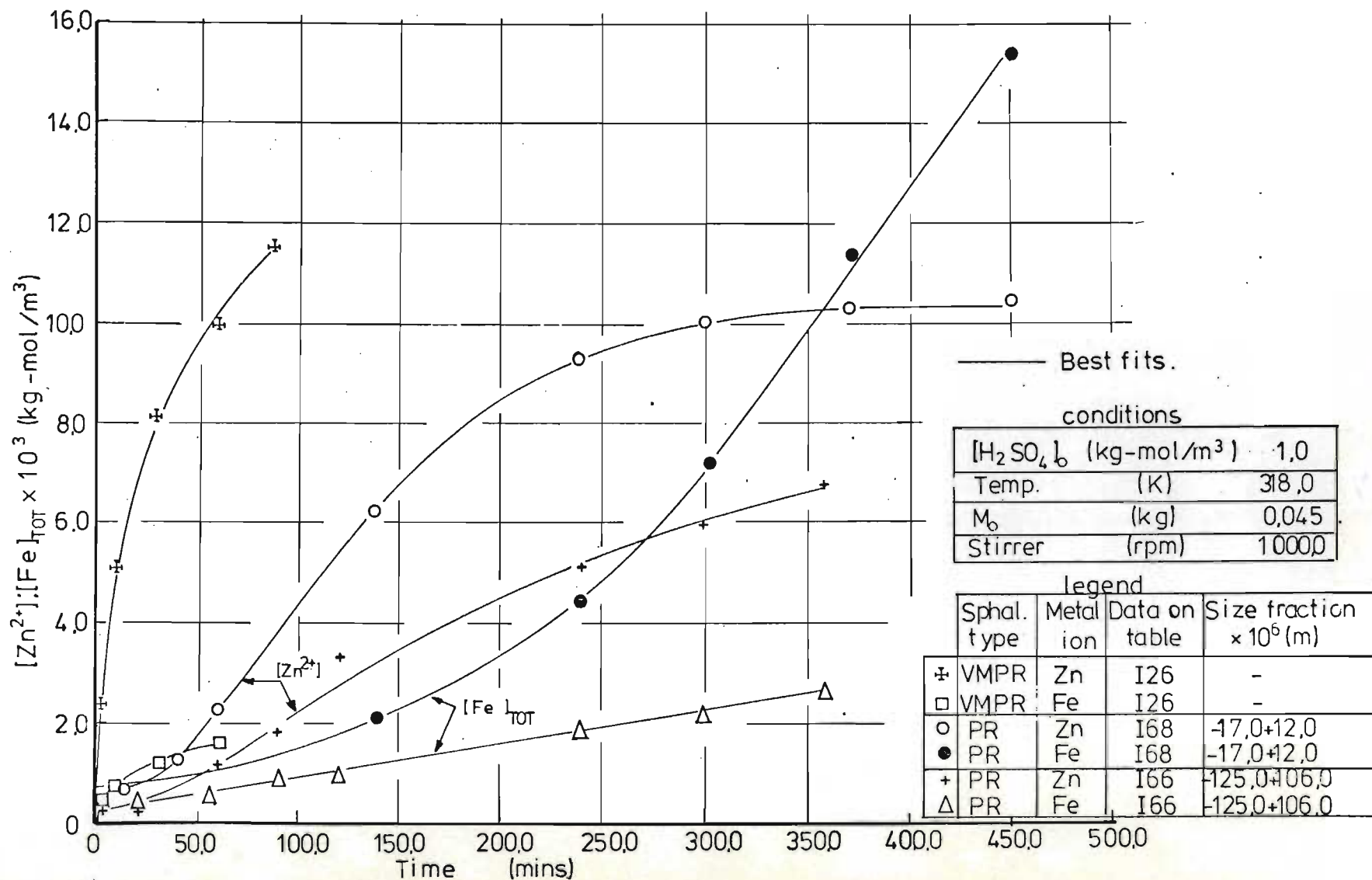


Figure 6.26 Comparison of zinc and iron dissolution rate curves for PR and VMPR sphalerites leaching in  $H_2SO_4$  (with  $[Fe^{3+}]_0=0$ )

———— Best fits.

conditions	Temp (K)	318,0
	Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0

legend	Metal ion	Data on table	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	$M_0$ (kg)
x	Zn	I 33	2,0	0,01
o	Zn	I 26	1,0	0,005
□	Fe	I 33	2,0	0,01
Δ	Fe	I 26	1,0	0,005

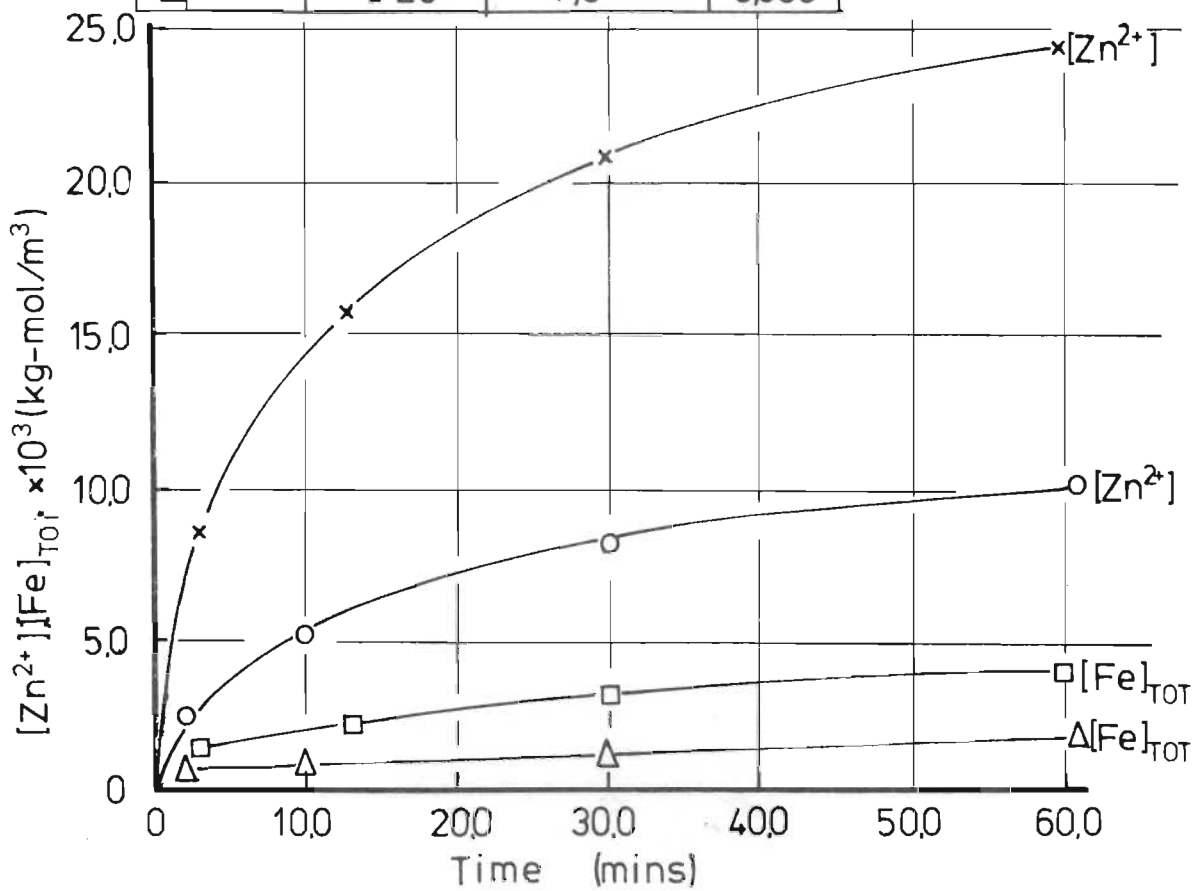


Figure 6.27 Comparison between zinc and iron dissolution rate curves for VMPS sphaerite leaching in  $H_2SO_4$ .

In order to compare the rates of dissolution of the zinc and iron from the sphalerite, a selectivity factor is defined as follows:-

$$\Theta = \frac{X_{[Zn^{2+}]}}{X_{[Fe]_{TOT}}} \dots\dots\dots 6.2$$

where

$$X_{[Zn^{2+}]} = [Zn^{2+}] / [Zn]_0 \dots\dots\dots 6.3$$

$$X_{[Fe]_{TOT}} = [Fe^{2+}] / [Fe]_{TOT,0} \dots\dots\dots 6.4$$

$X_{[Zn^{2+}]}$  and  $X_{[Fe]_{TOT}}$  are the extents of zinc and iron dissolved; whilst  $[Zn^{2+}]_0$  and  $[Fe]_{TOT,0}$  are the initial molar concentrations of undissolved zinc and iron in the sphalerite.

Figure 6.28 plots the selectivity factor  $\Theta$  versus time for three size fractions of PR sphalerite leaching in 1M  $H_2SO_4$ ; and for VMPR leaching in 1,0M  $H_2SO_4$  and in 2,0M  $H_2SO_4$ . From figure 6.28 it is observed that the result of vibratory milling the PR sphalerite was to vastly increase  $\Theta$

#### 6.5 OXIDATION OF $H_2S$ BY $Fe^{3+}$ IN THE PRESENCE OF ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

The author conducted preliminary tests which demonstrated that the presence of activated charcoal catalysed the oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ . H. Dijs subsequently conducted a series of controlled experiments using the author's apparatus with the understanding that the results be made available to the author for publication in this thesis. The

conditions

Temp.	(K)	318,0
Stirrer	(rpm)	10000

legend

	Sphal. type	Data on table	Size fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)	$M_0$ (kg)	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )
⊕	VMPR	I 33	-	0,01	2,0
□	VMPR	I 26	-	0,005	1,0
○	PR	I 68	-17,0+12,0	0,045	1,0
△	PR	I 67	-75,0+53,0	0,045	1,0
x	PR	I 66	-125,0+106,0	0,045	1,0

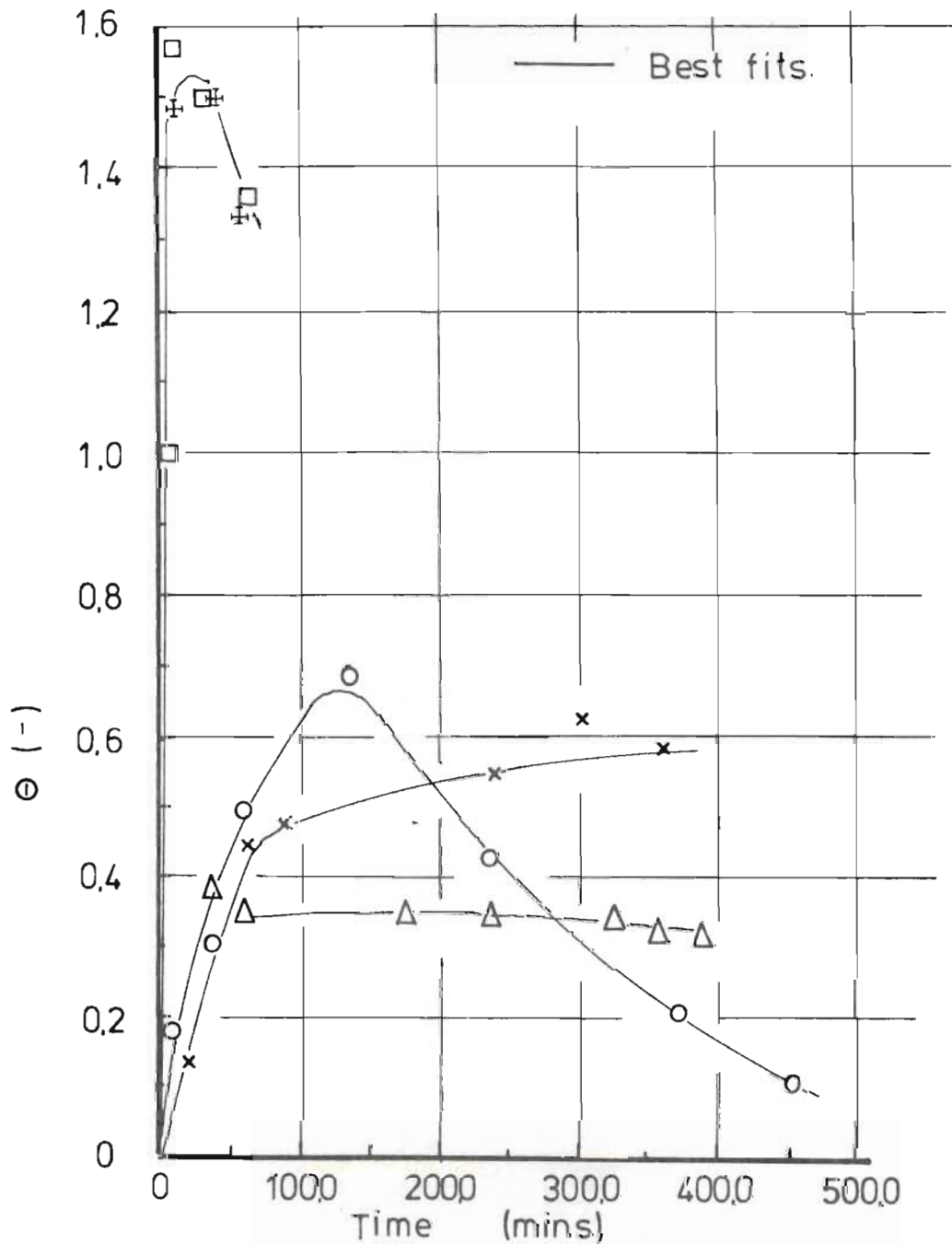


Figure 6.28 Comparison of the selectivities  $\Theta$  associated with the dissolution of zinc and iron from three sizes of PR sphalerite, and from VMPR sphalerite leaching in  $H_2SO_4$ .



full results of these experiments are presented in tables K39 to K42.

The experiments consisted of:-

- (i) purging  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas into 1,0 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  without and with various masses of activated charcoal initially present. The reagent grade activated charcoal used was marketed by the British Drug House Company and had a specific surface area (determined by the author using <sup>the</sup> BET  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption method) of  $0,75 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^2/\text{kg}$ . The  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  partial pressure was monitored during purging and during the subsequent reaction with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ .
- (ii) With the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  partial pressure at steady state, solution samples were drawn and the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  concentration was determined analytically.
- (iii) A volume of concentrated  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  solution was injected into the reactor, and the pressure decay curve was monitored and recorded.

Table 6.2 summarises the experimental conditions for the four runs, and presents the measured values of  $(P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}})_0$  and  $(\frac{dP_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{dt})_0$ . The initial rates were expressed in terms of  $\frac{d[\text{H}_2\text{S}]}{dt}$  by dividing  $(\frac{dP_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{dt})_0$  by the measured distribution coefficient,  $K_D$  for  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ .

Table No.	$M_o$ (Act.Char) (kg)	$[Fe^{3+}]_o$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	$[H_2S]_o$ $\times 10^3$ (kg-mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	$\left(\frac{dP_{H_2S}}{dt}\right)_o$ (k Pa/min)	$(P_{H_2S})_{o,eq.}$ (k Pa)	$-\left(\frac{d[H_2S]}{dt}\right)_{o,exp}$ (kg - mol / m <sup>3</sup> .min)	$-\left(\frac{d[H_2S]}{dt}\right)_{o,mod}$ (kg - mol / m <sup>3</sup> .min)	$\omega^*$ (-)
K 39	0	36,5	21,7	3,43	26,21	2,861	1,74	1,64
K 40	0,003	50,5	22,1	9,21	26,77	7,605	3,08	2,47
K 41	0,01	51,5	21,8	22,33	26,35	18,44	3,12	5,91
K 42	0,02	53,4	22,2	53,0	26,85	43,77	3,32	13,19

- NOTE
- 1)  $[H_2SO_4]_o = 1,0$  for each experiment
  - 2) Temperature = 298,0° K for each experiment
  - 3) Stirrer speed = 1000,0 rpm for each experiment
  - 4)  $\left(\frac{d[H_2S]}{dt}\right)_{mod}$  defined by equation 5.7

T A B L E 6.

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS AND RESULTS OF OXIDISING H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup> IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> IN THE PRESENCE OF VARIOUS MASSES OF ACTIVATED CHARCOAL. RESULTS ARE TABULATED IN APPENDIX H 3

The initial homogeneous rate of  $H_2S$  oxidation by  $Fe^{3+}$  was calculated using the modified Verhulst equation 5.7. Figure 6.29 plots  $\omega^*$  versus the initial mass of activated charcoal added, where:-

$$\omega^* = \frac{\text{Experimental initial rate}}{\text{Initial rate calculated using equation 5.6}} \quad \dots\dots\dots 6.5$$

A linear relationship exists which clearly demonstrates and proves that activated charcoal catalyses the oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ . No attempt has been made here to propose a mechanism for the catalysis phenomena.

6.6 EFFECT OF ACTIVATED CHARCOAL ON THE LEACHING OF VMWBM SPHALERITE IN  $H_2SO_4$  WITH AND WITHOUT  $Fe^{3+}$  PRESENT

Table 6.3 summarises the conditions of experiments in which VMWBM sphalerite was leached in aqueous sulphuric acid with and without  $Fe^{3+}$  and/or activated charcoal present.

Figures 6.30 a and 6.30 b plot  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time and  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time for experiments conducted under such conditions that a  $H_2S$  partial pressure could be monitored. The following observations are made from these figures :-

- a) The presence of activated charcoal (but no  $Fe^{3+}$ ) results in an increase in the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time rate curve, but a decrease in the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curve. This suggests that the activated charcoal adsorbs  $H_2S$  more readily than  $Zn^{2+}$ . This has the

— Best fit with origin  $\Theta = 1,0$  at  $M_0 = 0,0$

○ Data reported on table 6.2

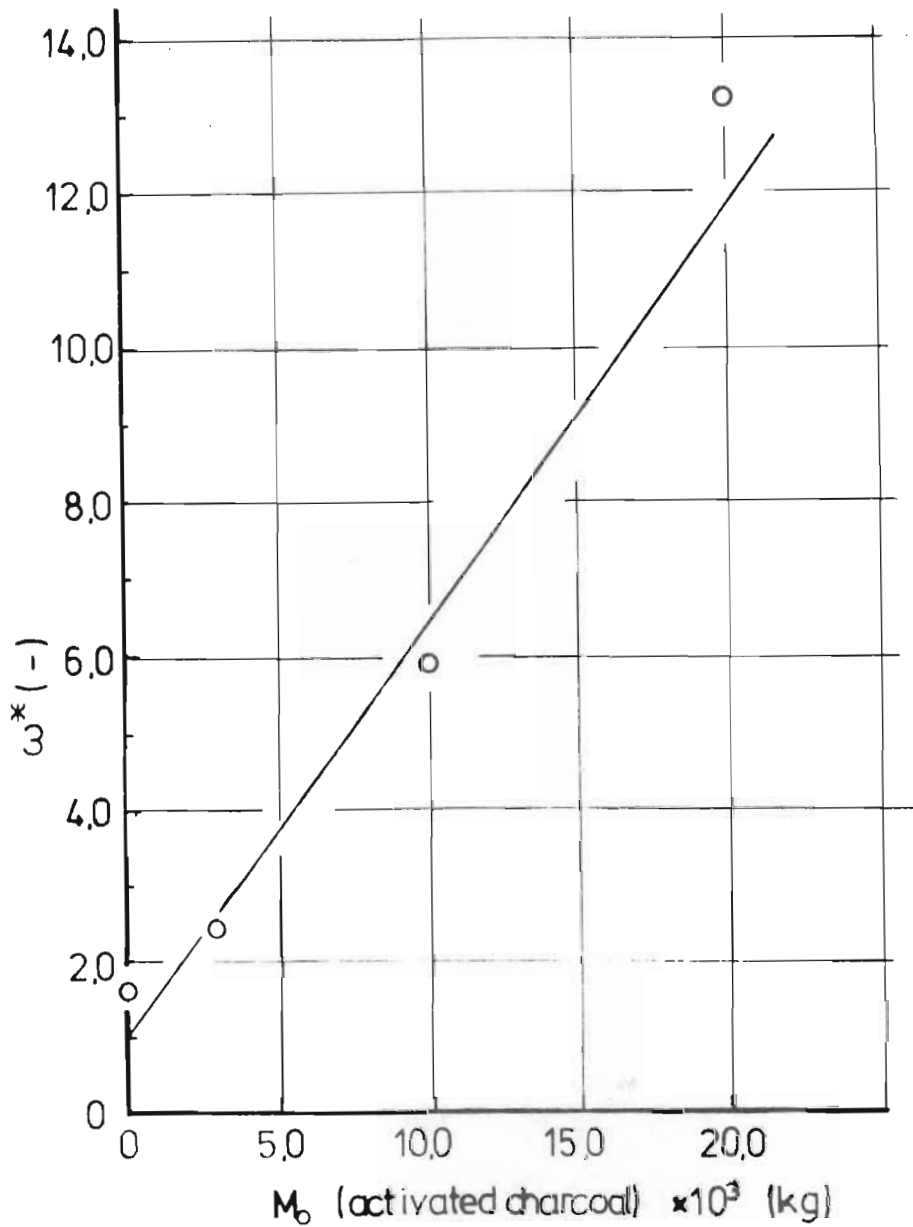


Figure 6.29 Demonstration of the catalytic effect of activated charcoal on the oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ . The initial oxidation rate ratio  $\omega^*$  is defined by eqn. 6.5.

TABLE NO. (-)	$[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$ ( kg-mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	MASS OF ACT. CHARCOAL ( kg )
I 2	0	0
L 2	13,75	0
L 7	0	0,005
L 8	0	0,01
L 9	13,75	0,005
L 4	55,0	0
L 10	57,3	0,01
L 11	57,3	0,02

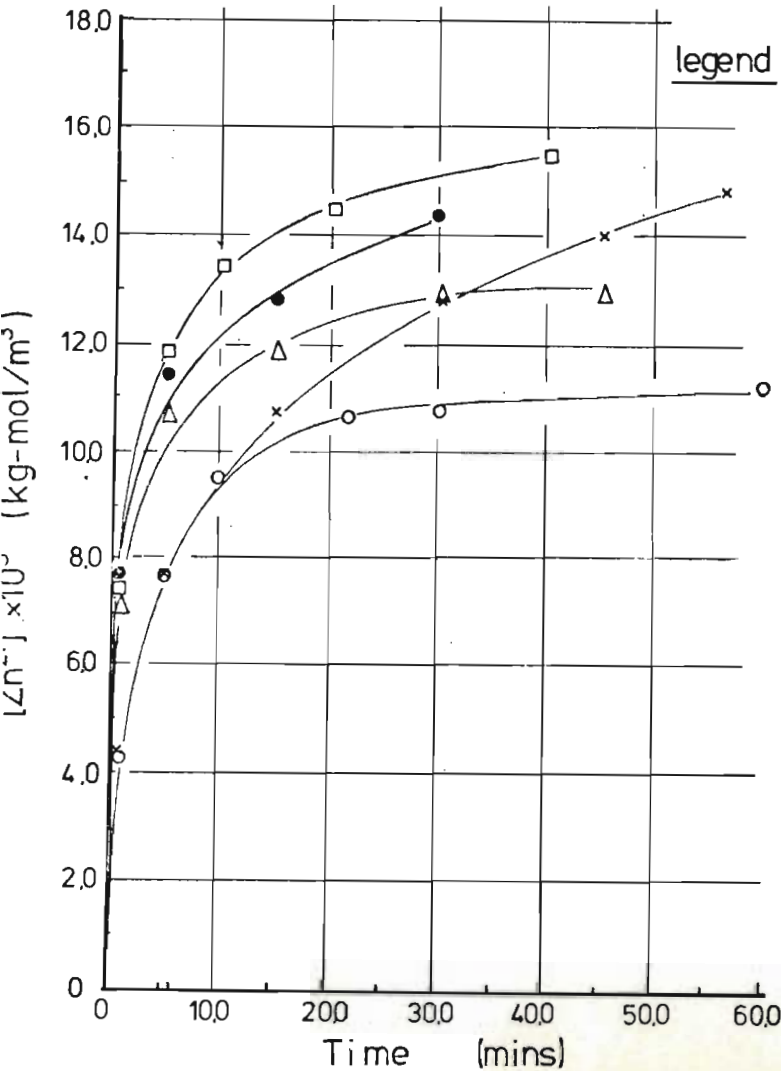
Temp. = 318,0 (K)  
 $M_0(\text{sphal})$  = 0,01 (kg)  
 Stirrer = 1000,0 (rpm)  
 $[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0$  = 1,0 (kg-mol / m<sup>3</sup>)

T A B L E 6. 3

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS FOR  
EXPERIMENTS IN WHICH VMWBM  
SPHALERITE WAS LEACHED WITH  
AND WITHOUT  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  OR ACTIVATED  
CHARCOAL PRESENT

conditions

$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Temp. (K)	318,0
$M_0$ (sphal) (kg)	0,01
Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0



Point (-)	Curve (-)	Data on table	$[Fe^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m)	$M_0$ (activated charcoal)-(kg)
$\Delta$	a	I2	0	0
$\circ$	b	L2	13,75	0
$\bullet$	c	L7	0	0,005
$\square$	d	L8	0	0,01
$\times$	e	L9	13,75	0,005

— Best fit through  $[Zn^{2+}]$  data.

Fig 6.30a

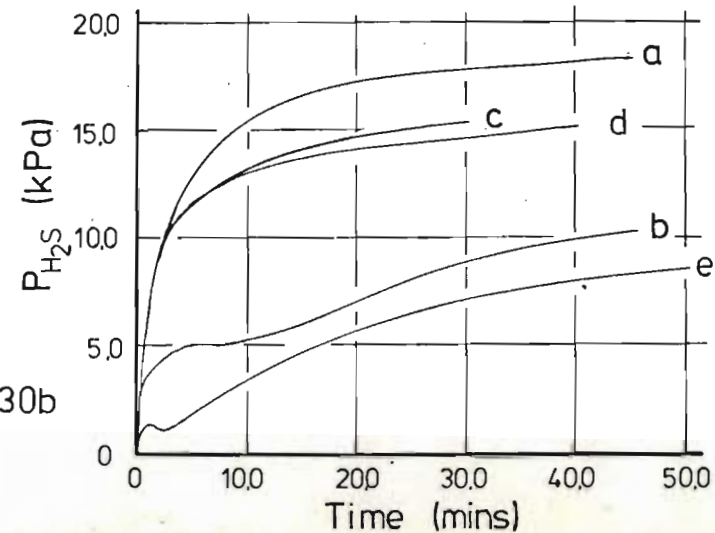
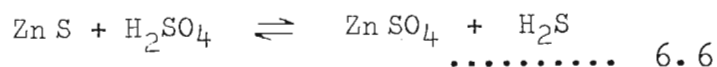


Fig 6.30b

Figures 6.30a and 6.30b Comparison of exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  rate curves for VMWBM sphalerite leaching in  $H_2SO_4$  without and with  $Fe^{3+}$  and/or activated charcoal initially present.

effect of permitting more  $Zn^{2+}$  to go into solution in order to achieve equilibrium according to the overall reaction stoichiometry :-



- b) The presence of  $Fe^{3+}$  alone (but no activated charcoal) suppressed the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time and  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves, as was observed and discussed in chapter 5 (section 5.2.1).
- c) The presence of  $Fe^{3+}$  and activated charcoal had no effect on the initial rate of  $Zn^{2+}$  formation (compared to the case referred to in b). However, the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time curve for  $t \geq 10,0$  mins. was increased and the overall  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time was greatly decreased (compared to the case referred to in b).

Figure 6.31 plots  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time for VMWBM sphalerite leaching in  $H_2SO_4$  with and without activated charcoal with sufficient initial  $Fe^{3+}$  present, so that no significant  $H_2S$  partial pressure was detected. The initial rate of leaching appeared to be unaffected by the presence of the activated charcoal. However, the subsequent rates of leaching with activated charcoal present increased more rapidly, and then decreased more rapidly than the rate of leaching without activated charcoal present.



— Best fits.

<u>conditions</u>	$[H_2SO_4]_0$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
	Temp. (K)	318,0
	$M_0$ (sphal) (kg)	0,01
	Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0

<u>legend</u>	Data on table	$[Fe^{3+}]_0 \times 10^3$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	$M_0$ (activated charcoal) -(kg)	
	○	L 4	55,0	0
	×	L 10	57,3	0,01
	△	L 11	57,3	0,02

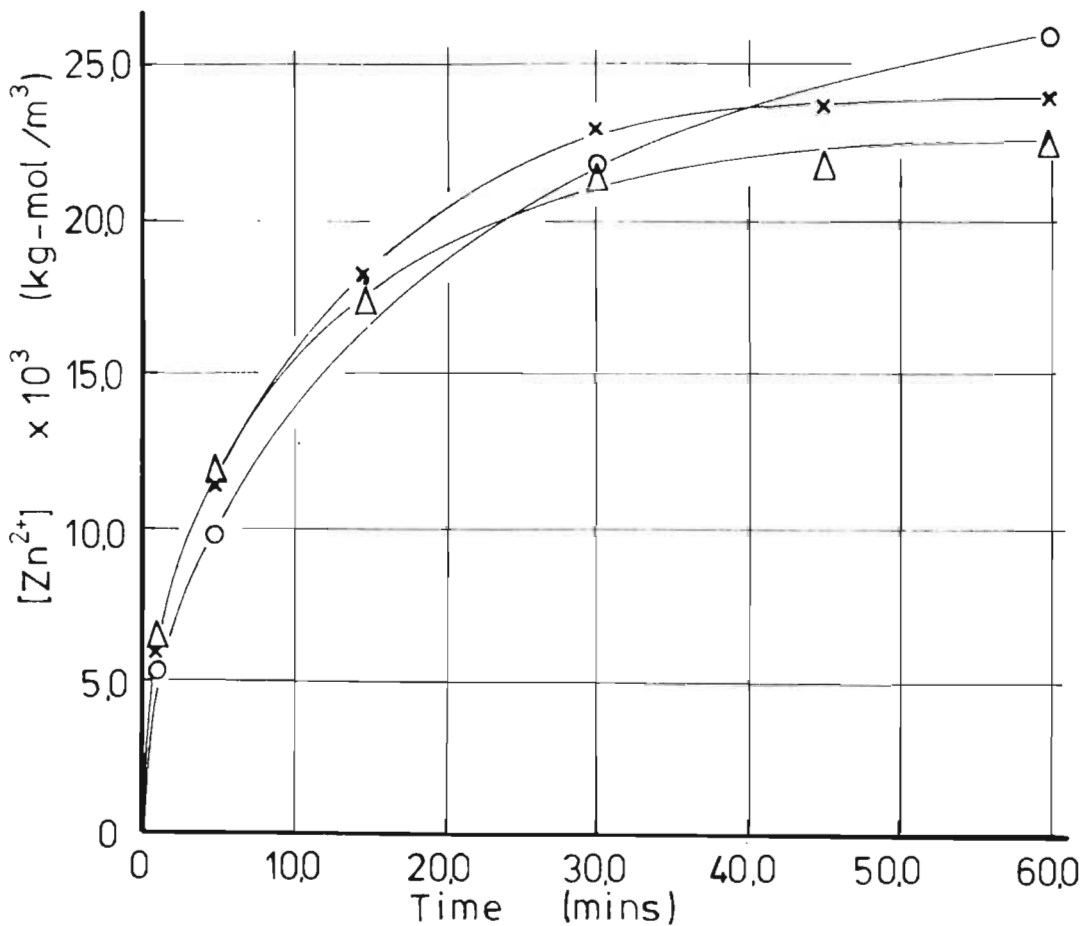


Figure 6.31 Exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  rate curves for VMWBM sphalerite leaching in  $H_2SO_4$  with sufficient  $Fe^{3+}$  initially present so that no  $P_{H_2S}$  is detectable, and with activated charcoal present.

Furthermore, the final  $[Zn^{2+}]$  value for the experiment conducted with 0,02 kg activated charcoal present, was less than that for the experiment conducted with only 0,01 kg activated charcoal present.

It was not possible to establish what concentration of zinc or ferric ions was adsorbed onto the activated charcoal surface. The adsorption of  $Zn^{2+}$  onto the activated charcoal could possibly explain why the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  at  $t = 60,0$  mins. was apparently lower with 0,02 kg activated charcoal than with 0,01 kg activated charcoal present.

From the above it appears that -

- 1) the presence of activated charcoal renders the greatest advantage when leaching VMWBM sphalerite in  $H_2SO_4$  with no initial ferric ions present;
- 2) the presence of activated charcoal renders no apparant advantage when leaching VMWBM sphalerite in  $H_2SO_4$  with sufficiently high  $[Fe^{3+}]_0$  such that no detectable  $P_{H_2S}$  is evident.

6.7 DISSOLUTION OF WVM SPHALERITE UNDER  
CASE (i) CONDITIONS

In section 3.1.1 the technique for producing WVM sphalerite was described. In short, the Wards sphalerite acquired originally in lump form was dry milled in a vibratory (i.e. attrition) mill, and screened into discrete size fractions. The WBM was wet ball milled before drying and screening.

Figure 6.32 compares the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  rate curves for  $-90,0 + 75,0 \mu m$  and  $-75,0 + 63,0 \mu m$  size fractions of WVM with the same size fractions of WBM sphalerite. It is observed that for the  $-90,0 + 75,0 \mu m$  particles, the WBM sphalerite apparently leaches faster, but that for the  $-75,0 + 63,0 \mu m$  particles the WBM and WVM leach at virtually identical rates. It is apparent that the act of vibratory milling does not activate the WVM and results in faster leaching for this sphalerite.

Figure 6.33 compares the specific surface area versus  $\bar{D}$  (where  $\bar{D}$  is the arithmetic mean of the size fraction upper and lower limits) for the WVM and WBM sphalerites. A B.E.T.  $N_2$  adsorption technique was used to measure the specific surface area.

It is observed that for a given  $\bar{D}$ , the WVM sphalerite generally has a lower  $A_0$  value than the WBM sphalerite. No attempt is made to explain this phenomenon.

Conditions

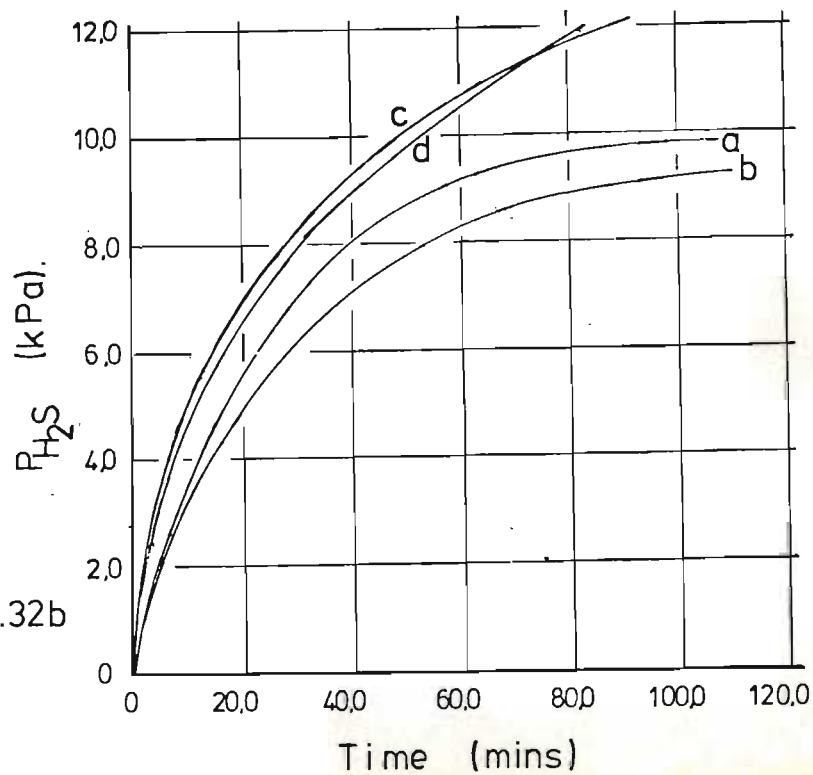
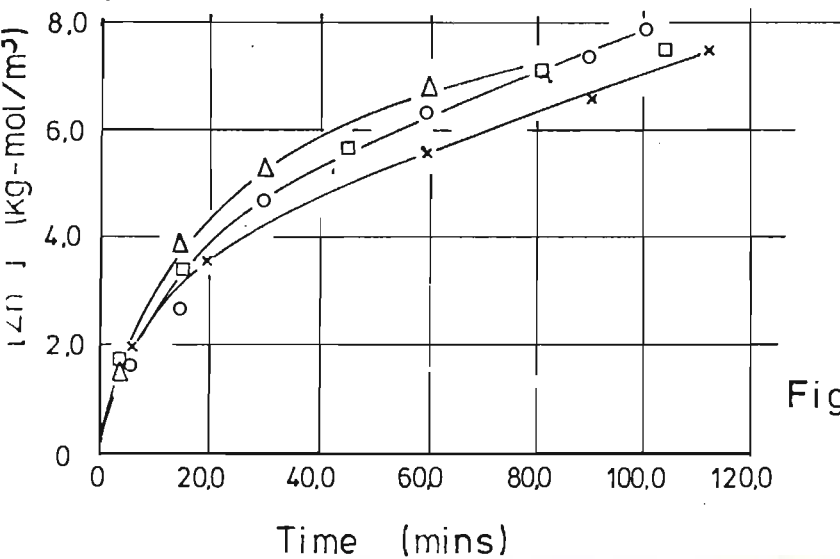
$M_o$ (kg)	0,05
$[H_2SO_4]_o$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0

(on fig. 6.32a)

Best fit through exptl.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  data.

Legend

Point (-)	Curve (-)	Sphal. type	Stirrer (rpm)	Size fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)	Data on table
o	a	WBM	800,0	-90,0+75,0	I 57
x	b	WVM	800,0	-90,0+75,0	I 58
□	c	WBM	1 000,0	-75,0+63,0	I 59
Δ	d	WVM	1000,0	-75,0+63,0	I 60



Figures 6.32a-b Comparison between the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  rate curves for ball milled (WBM) and vibratory milled (WVM) sphalerite leaching under case(i) conditions.

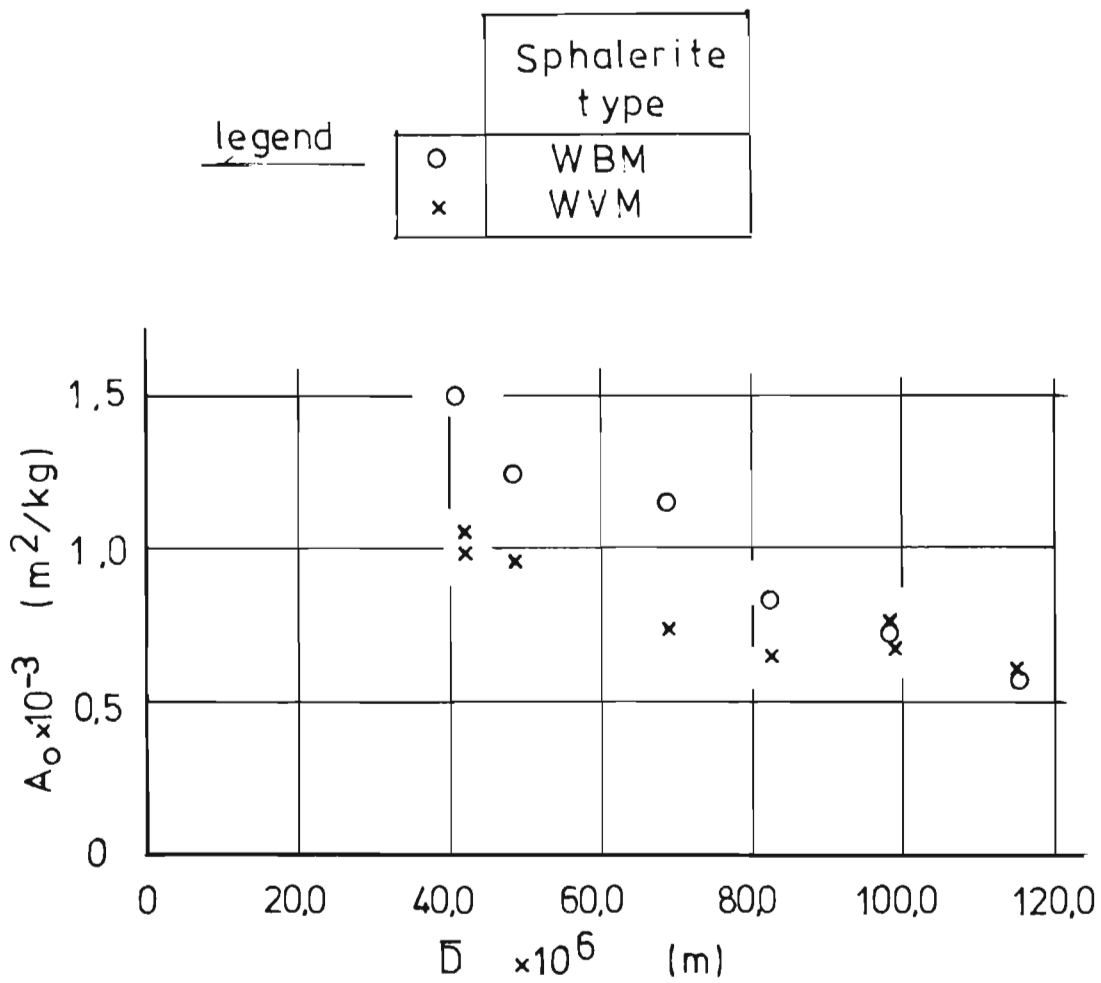


Figure 6.33 Comparison between the specific surface areas of WBM and WVM sphalerites.

6.8 THE POSSIBILITY OF S<sup>0</sup> ASH DIFFUSION BECOMING  
RATE LIMITING DURING SPHALERITE DISSOLUTION  
UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

Wen (1968) presented a test to differentiate between chemical and diffusion rate control. Without repeating his derivation, he demonstrated that for the heterogeneous reaction of solids in which an ash layer formed, plotting  $\log(\text{time})$  versus  $\log(1,0 - (1,0 - X)^{0,333})$  produced a line with a slope of 1,0 or 2,0 depending on whether chemical reaction, or ash diffusion respectively was rate controlling.

Figure 6.34 represents such plots for the BDH, VMWBM and VMPR sphalerites.

Figure 6.35 represents such plots for the WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites. Very little accurate data was generally collected within the first 5,0 or 10,0 minutes. It is observed in the case of the WBM and PR sphalerites that chemical reaction appeared to be rate limiting up to about  $\log(\text{time}) = 1,5$  (i.e.  $t = 30,0$  mins) and thereafter S<sup>0</sup> ash diffusion appeared to be rate limiting. The slopes for each of the other types of sphalerite approximated 2,0 over the range of data plotted, suggesting that S<sup>0</sup> ash diffusion was rate limiting.

This evidence conflicts with the results in chapter 4 (sections 4.1 and 4.7) which showed that for VMWBM sphalerite the calculated change in active site concentration (X) with X was the same for dissolution under case (i) conditions as it was for dissolution under case (ii) conditions. No elemental sulphur was formed under case (i) conditions.

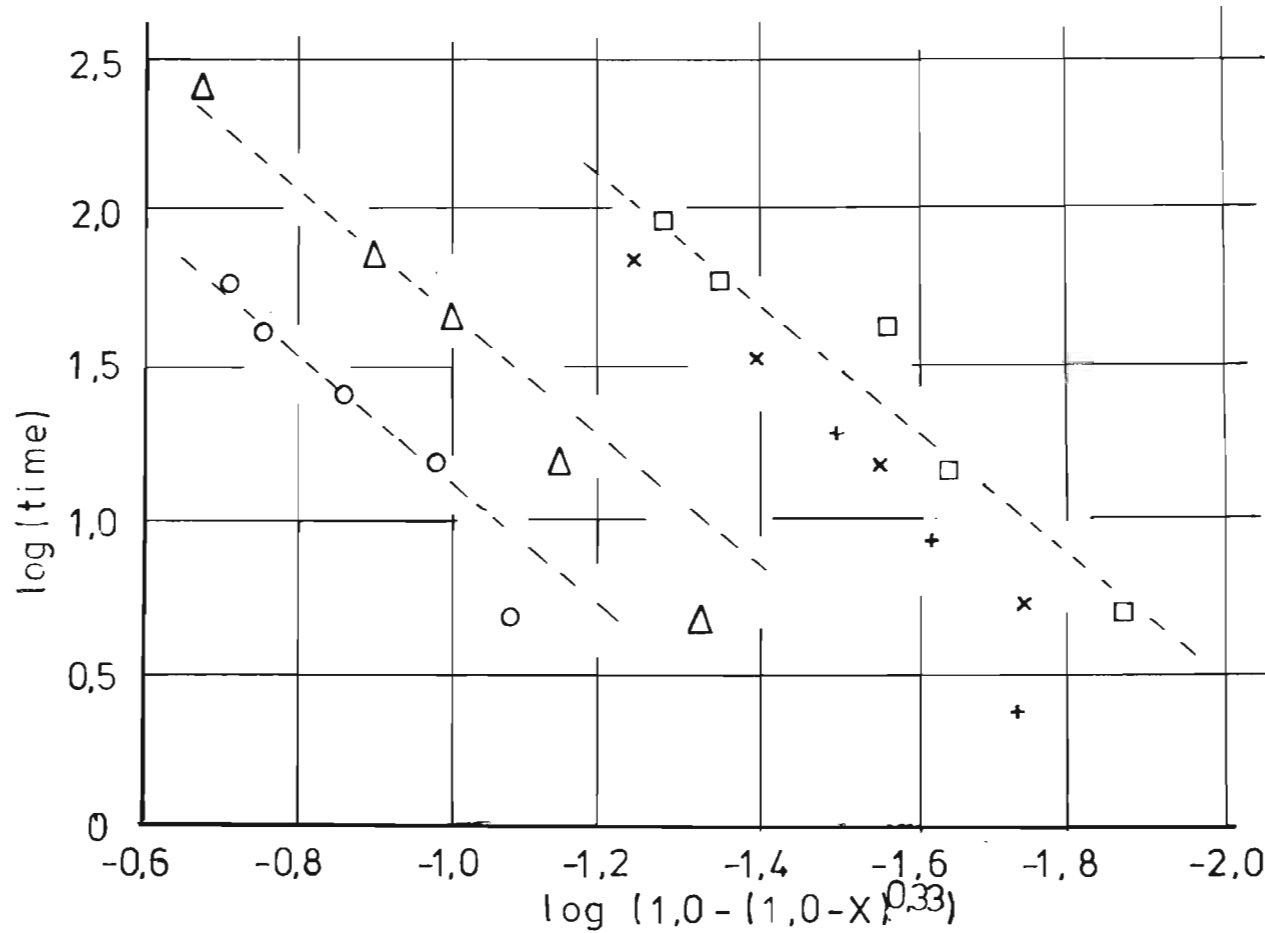
Furthermore, in section 4.3 results were reported in which ZCR sphalerite was partially leached before removal from the acidic ferric sulphate media, washed in  $\text{CCl}_4$  to remove  $\text{S}^0$  and then resubmitted for leaching in the original solution. No increase in rate was evident suggesting that diffusion through a  $\text{S}^0$  layer was not rate limiting.

Tiwari (1976) investigated the leaching of zinc sulphide in aqueous sulphuric acid using dissolved  $\text{SO}_2$  gas as the oxidant. It was established that chemical reaction was initially rate controlling and that subsequently the rate limiting step became diffusion through a sulphur ash layer. The kinetics of the chemical reaction and ash diffusion control regimes was modelled.

NOTE: Wen's test for diffusion control is valid only for the initial stages of reaction (equation 16 presented by Wen (1968) is a valid approximation to equation 11 only under such circumstances); and for smooth spherical particles (which were not used for this thesis).



----- Line with a slope of 2,0.



(legend)

	Sphal. type	Data on table	Temp (K)
○	BDH	J 47	353,0
△	VMWBM	J 10	338,0
×	VMWBM	J 9	318,0
□	BDH	J 44	323,0
+	VMPR	J 43	318,0

Figure 6.34 Plots of case (ii) leaching data for BDH, VMWBM and VMPR sphalerites. According to WEN(1968) a slope of 2,0 suggests that S<sup>o</sup>ash diffusion is rate limiting.

----- Line with a slope of 2.0  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Line with a slope of 1.0

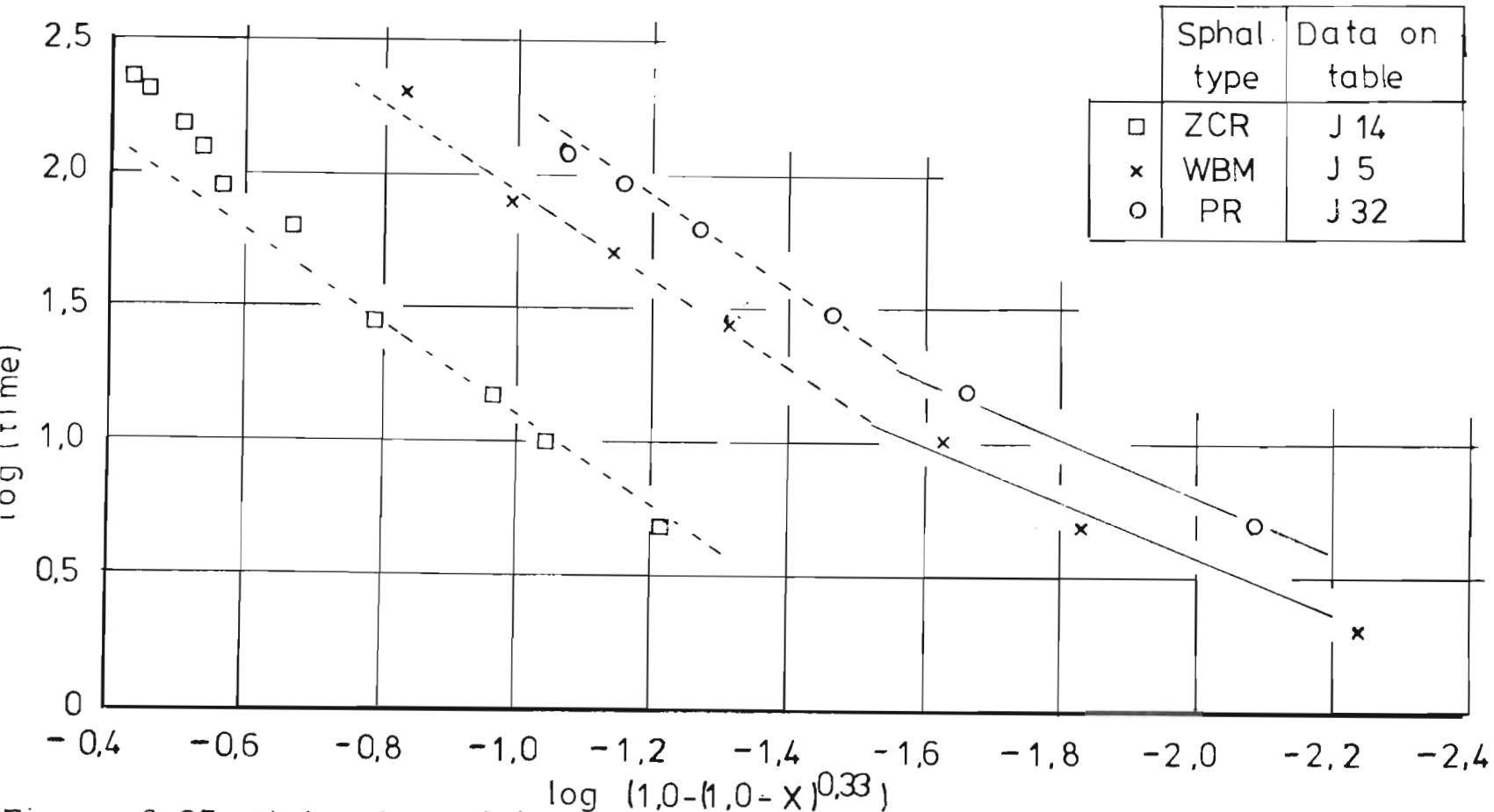


Figure 6.35 Plots of case(ii) leaching data for the WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites. According to WEN(1968), a slope of 2.0 suggests that  $S^{\circ}$  ash diffusion is rate limiting and a slope of 1.0 suggests that chemical reaction is rate limiting.

C H A P T E R    7

SUMMARY    AND    CONCLUSIONS

The aim of this thesis was to fundamentally study the dissolution kinetics of a synthetic and three different natural sphalerites in acidic sulphate media under the following conditions :-

Case (i)	$[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$	:	$[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 = 0,0$
Case (ii)	$[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$	:	$[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \geq 1,8$
Case (iii)	$[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0$	:	$[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \leq 0,1$

The manner in which this work was carried out and the results obtained are now summarised.

### 7.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

A review of the literature showed that very few fundamental studies of the dissolution of natural sphalerite under case (i), (ii) or (iii) conditions had been reported. The role and effect of changes in the sphalerite surface area had generally been neglected. Some controversy seemed to exist regarding the effect of vibratory (i.e. attrition) milling on the sphalerite dissolution kinetics.

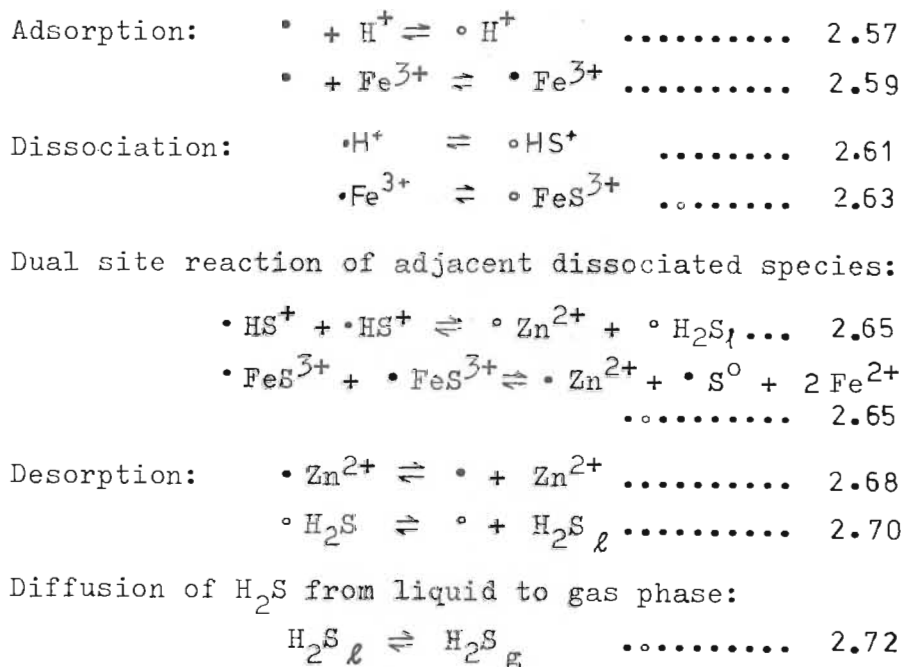
Many studies were complicated by the presence of elemental oxygen and pressure conditions in the system. Consequently the roles of the hydrogen and

ferric ions were poorly understood.

It appeared to be generally accepted that the dissolution of sphalerite in acidic ferric sulphate media takes place non-oxidatively with  $H_2S$  first being produced, and that the  $H_2S$  is then oxidised homogeneously by the ferric ion. Some evidence was presented which suggested that the oxidation of the  $H_2S$  by the  $Fe^{3+}$  could be catalysed by the sphalerite present.

## 7.2 THEORETICAL ASPECTS

Dissolution mechanisms based on Langmuir-Hinshelwood adsorption theories were proposed and tested, and the following mechanism involving dual site reaction of adsorbed species in a well agitated system was favoured.



No mechanism was proposed for the homogeneous

oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ , and an empirical model (equation 1.7) developed by Verhulst (1974) was accepted as describing the kinetics for this reaction.

The following model was developed for dissolution under case (i) conditions in which adsorption or desorption steps were assumed to be rate limiting :-

$$\frac{d [Zn^{2+}]}{dt} = \frac{\phi_o^m (k_f [H^+]^m - k_r [Zn^{2+}]^{m/2,0} [H_2S]_l^{m/2,0})}{(1,0 + K_{H^+}[H^+] + K_{Zn^{2+}}[Zn^{2+}] + K_{H_2S}[H_2S]_l)^m} \dots\dots\dots 2.81: 2.89$$

where  $m = 1,0$  when adsorption is rate limiting;  
 $m = 2,0$  when desorption is rate limiting.

The model developed for dissolution under case (ii) conditions was :-

$$\frac{d [Zn^{2+}]}{dt} = k \phi_o \frac{[Fe^{3+}]}{[H^+]} \dots\dots\dots 2.95$$

The models developed for dissolution under case (iii) conditions were very complex and are summarised in table 2.4.

### 7.3 EXPERIMENTAL ASPECTS

The following types and forms of sphalerite were leached under case (i), (ii) and (iii) conditions. (The abbreviations used in the text to identify each sphalerite are shown enclosed by brackets.)

- A synthetic sphalerite (BDH);
- A hand picked high grade natural sphalerite;  
 which was ball milled (WBM); course vibratory  
 milled (WVM) and vibratory milled fine (VMWBM);

A moderately impure industrial flotation concentrate used in a granular form (ZCR) or after vibratory milling fine (VMZCR);

A highly impure industrial flotation concentrate used in a granular form (PR) or after vibratory milling fine (VMPR).

The chemical compositions and mineralogies of these sphalerites are reported in this thesis.

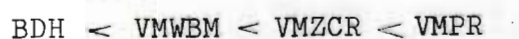
### 7.3.1 LEACHING UNDER CASE (i) CONDITIONS

- 1) The sphalerites were leached in a 1ℓ glass bowl reactor. Solution samples were taken at discrete time intervals during leaching, filtered and analysed for  $Zn^{2+}$ . The  $H_2S$  partial pressure was monitored continuously. The effects of the following variables were investigated:  
 $[H_2SO_4]_0$ ;  $M_0$ ;  $A_0$ ; Temperature; agitation;  
 $[Zn^{2+}]_0$ ;  $[H_2S]_0$ .
- 2) Most of the experimentation was done using the VMWBM, VMZCR, BDH and VMPR sphalerites. The models expressed by equations 2.81 and 2.89 fitted the initial rate dissolution kinetics for these four sphalerites.
- 3) The active site concentration  $\phi$  varied during leaching in a way which was unique for each sphalerite. The way in which  $\phi$  changed was not related to the change in specific surface area (as measured using a B.E.T.  $N_2$  adsorption technique), or to the shrinking core or any other simple model.



4) The shapes of the WBM and ZCR sphalerite dissolution rate curves were very different, the latter demonstrating an apparant induction period (as did the PR sphalerite). However, the VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites leached virtually identically, without any evidence of an induction period.

5) The  $Zn^{2+}$  adsorption equilibrium constants for each sphalerite were observed to increase in the order :-



(The dissolution rate per unit area of these sphalerites leaching under case (ii) conditions also increase in this order. This suggests that the adsorption of positive metal ions increase for the sphalerites in this order).

### 7.3.2 LEACHING UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

- 1) Under case (ii) conditions no  $H_2S$  partial pressure was detected, and it was shown that equal amounts of zinc ions and elemental sulphur were formed.
- 2) The  $-90,0 + 63,0 \mu m$  size fractions of WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites leached virtually identically. For the PR sphalerite the leaching rate per unit area increased with decreasing particle size to a maximum for the vibratory milled VMPR sphalerite. This apparant activation appeared to be due to the liberation of chalcopyrite impurity rather than due to the mode of milling.



For the WBM sphalerite the leaching rate per unit area decreased with decreasing particle size to a minimum for the vibratory milled VMWBM sphalerite, to a value which was close to that observed for the synthetic BDH sphalerite. Consequently no apparant activation effect was observed.

A slight decrease in leaching rate per unit area with decrease in particle size was observed for the ZCR sphalerite.

- 3) Photographs of unleached and leached sphalerite particles were taken using a Scanning Electron Microscope. Elemental sulphur was observed to coat the WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerite particles which had been leached under case (ii) conditions.

Optical microscope photographs of etched and unetched polished sections of WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerites were taken which revealed that dissolution generally occurred preferentially at specific zones and in a complex manner.

The experimental and theoretical evidence regarding the effect of the sulphur coating on case (ii) dissolution kinetics, tends to be conflicting.

### 7.3.3 LEACHING UNDER CASE (iii) CONDITIONS

- 1) It was shown that for leaching under case (iii) conditions, oxidative dissolution (which produced  $S^0$ ) and non-oxidative dissolution (which produced  $H_2S$ ) occurred simultaneously.

- 2) The presence of small  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  concentrations tended to suppress the initial rate of dissolution of the BDH, VMWBM and VMZCR sphalerites in a manner which could not be satisfactorily explained in terms of adsorption theories.
- 3) Experiments were conducted in which  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  (produced either by purging  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ , or by leaching various sphalerites) was oxidised by  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  injected into the reactor. The resultant decrease in  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  with time was monitored. It was shown that the sphalerite solids catalysed the oxidation reaction, and that the catalytic effect was very large for the VMPR sphalerite. It was also shown that activated charcoal strongly catalysed the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ .
- 4) The presence of activated charcoal enhanced the dissolution of sphalerite in acidic ferric sulphate media, only when conditions were such that  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  was a product of the dissolution reaction.

#### 7. 4 CONCLUSIONS

- 1) Extensive experimental data are reported for the dissolution of a synthetic and three natural sphalerites under case (i), (ii) or (iii) conditions, and for the oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  by  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the absence or presence of these sphalerites or activated charcoal.
- 2) It was possible to use the Langmuir-Hinshelwood adsorption theories to propose mechanisms and develop models which fitted the initial rate kinetic data for leaching sphalerite in acid sulphate media without or with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  present.

- 3) Dissolution took place non-oxidatively (under case (i) conditions); oxidatively (under case (ii) conditions), or both non-oxidatively and oxidatively at the same time (under case (iii) conditions). The extents and rate at which oxidative or non-oxidative dissolution took place, and the catalytic effect<sup>of</sup> the sphalerites on the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  oxidation of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ , could be interpreted in terms of the adsorption characteristics of the sphalerites.
- 4) Scanning electron microscope photographs of particles leached under oxidative conditions showed the presence of elemental sulphur on the surface. However, the evidence is conflicting as to whether the sulphur results in diffusion rate control.
- 5) The way in which the specific area (as measured using a  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption technique) changed during leaching generally bore no relationship to the calculated change in active area.
- 6) The effects of milling the natural sphalerites fine depended on the chemical composition of the sphalerites, and not on the mode of milling. Thus vibratory milling and ball milling which apparently resulted in an activation effect in the case of the PR sphalerite, caused no such effect for the WBM and ZCR sphalerites.

- 7) Decreasing the exponent on the  $H_2SO_4$  term from 2,49 to 2,0 in the Verhulst model for the  $Fe^{3+}$  oxidation of  $H_2S$  (equation 1.7), resulted in a significantly better fit of the model to experimental data. The presence of sphalerite or activated charcoal exerted significant catalytic effects on the oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$ .
  
- 8) The presence of activated charcoal did not result in enhanced sphalerite dissolution rates, unless conditions were such that  $H_2S$  was a product of reaction.



C H A P T E R      8

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## APPENDIX

A P P E N D I X    ADESCRIPTION OF LEACHING APPARATUSIntroduction

Figure A.1 schematically illustrates the apparatus used to leach sphalerite in aqueous sulphuric acid, and to oxidise  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$  in the presence or absence of sphalerite or other solids. Basically the same apparatus was used to leach sphalerite in acidic ferric sulphate, the main difference being that in many runs the  $H_2S$  partial pressure was known to be negligible and no attempt was made to monitor the reactor pressure.

Figure A.2 presents a photograph of an overall view of the leaching circuit and figure A.3 a close-up photograph of the reactor bowl and head.

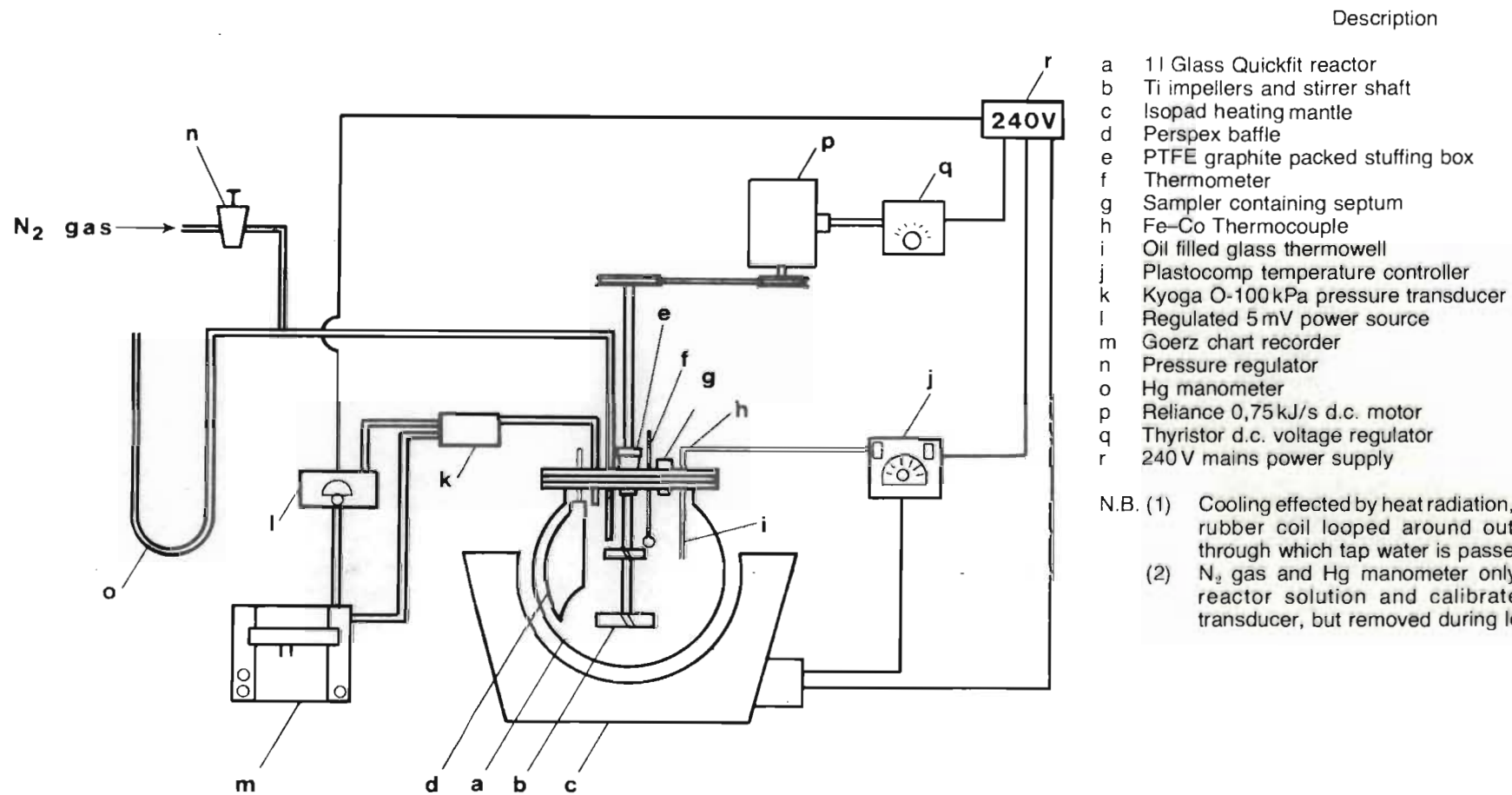


FIGURE A.1. Schematic diagram of leaching apparatus

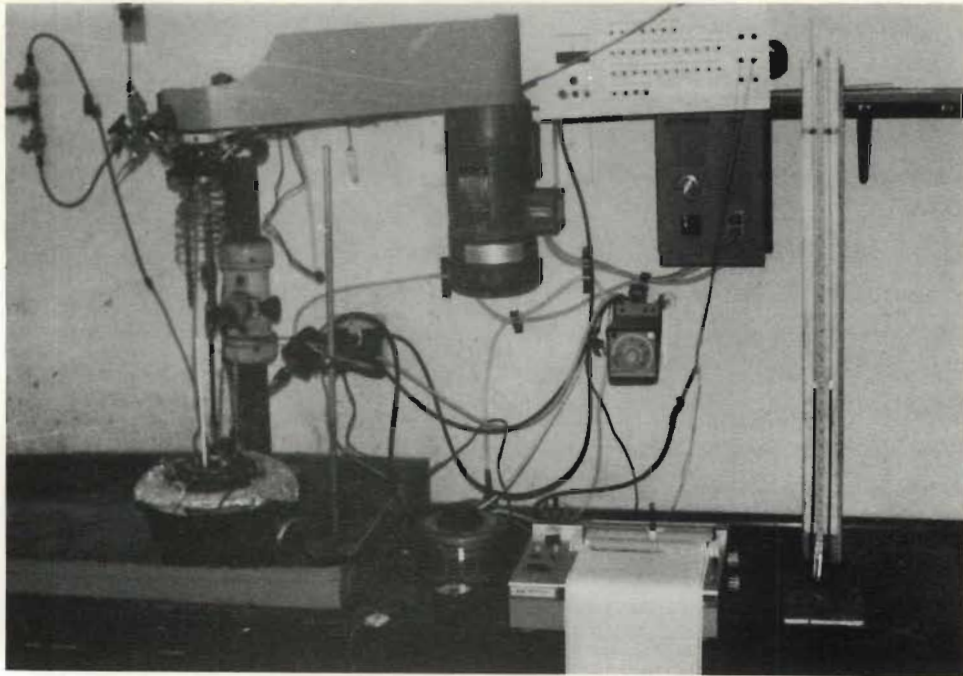


Figure A.2 Overall view of leaching apparatus. Refer to text and fig. A.1 for description and details.

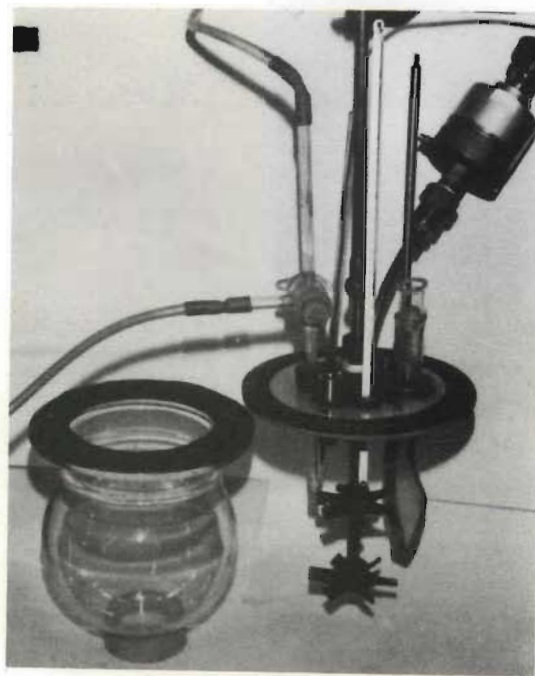


Figure A.3 Close-up view of reactor bowl and head. Refer to text and fig A.1 for description and details.

A. 1        REACTOR

Figure A. 3 shows a close-up view of the reactor which consisted of a spherical 1ℓ Quickfit glass bowl. A flat P.V.C. top was machined with multiple ports to permit access into the reactor. A flat expanded rubber gasket was fitted between the ground glass reactor flange and the P.V.C. top. A mild steel ring counter sunk into the P.V.C. top enabled the top and the reactor flange to be tightly clamped together with a spring clip, (visible on Figure A. 2). Pressures of up to 40,0kPa could be tolerated before leakage occurred.

A titanium shaft passed through a stuffing box into the reactor, and two downward pumping titanium impellers were fitted, 0,05m apart at the bottom of the shaft. The teflon (or P.T.F.E.) dry stuffing box was packed with Chesterton self forming graphite tape.

A shaped perspex baffle was installed in the reactor to help induce turbulence. The total internal volume of the reactor with top, impellar, baffle etc. fitted, was approximately  $1,35 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$ .

A. 2        TEMPERATURE CONTROL

An oil-filled thermowell containing a "Thermocoax" Fe-Co thermocouple was installed in the reactor. A Philips Plastocomp temperature controller related the



thermocouple millivolt signal to a set point, and operated a relay switch. The relay switch passed 240 V mains current through a variable voltage transformer to an "Isopad" heating unit. A thermometer calibrated in 0,1K was used to accurately monitor the temperature of the reactor contents.

Cooling was effected manually when necessary by passing mains water through narrow bore rubber tubing looped around the outside of the reactor. (It was found that passing cooling water through the reactor gas cap to a cooling coil inside the reactor, caused intolerable fluctuations of the monitored pressure owing to cooling of the gas in the gas cap.)

Many of the experiments were conducted at 318,0K as at this temperature the control system functioned best. Temperature could generally be controlled to approximately  $\pm 0,25$  K.

### A. 3 STIRRER SPEED CONTROL

A "Saftronic" single phase thyristor controller was used to drive a "Reliance" 0,75 KJ/s D.C. motor. The titanium reactor stirrer was connected via a rubber coupling to the drive shaft of apparatus used previously by the author to conduct pressure leaching experiments. The stirrer speed was measured using a 0 to 10 000 r.p.m. tachometer.

A. 4 GAS CAP PRESSURE MONITORING

The reactor pressure was transduced to a millivolt output signal using either a Kyowa model PG - 1 KU (0 - 100,0 kPa range) or a model PG - 2 KU (0 - 200,0 kPa range) transducer. The pressure transducer was activated by a 5,0 mV D.C. regulated current, and the transducer output was recorded using a "Goerz" potentiometric flatbed recorder. A source of N<sub>2</sub> gas (used to purge the reactor contents), was connected to a mercury manometer so that when the reactor was closed and pressurised the recorder output of the transducer signal could be calibrated against the measured Hg manometer head difference.

A. 5 SAMPLE INTRODUCTION

It was important to be able to measure the initial rate of increase of the reactor pressure due to H<sub>2</sub>S evolution, when the reaction commenced. Pressure increases due to the gas cap heating up after switching on the reactor, and increases associated with the introduction of the solids thus had to be minimised.

A 10,0 ml or 20,0 ml plastic hypodermic syringe, with the front cut off, was therefore filled with sphalerite sample and the syringe front was sealed with a rubber stopper. The syringe with sample was fitted into the reactor top, (shown in Figure A. 3),

and the sphalerite sample was 'injected' into the reactor after initial steady state had been attained.

The introduction of large samples (for example > 20,0 g), necessitated pouring the solids into the reactor through a funnel and sealing the reactor as rapidly as possible. This procedure unfortunately permitted the ingress of air (hence elemental oxygen), and permitted the gas cap to cool.

#### A. 6 SOLUTION SAMPLING AND FILTERING

A stainless steel cylinder was obtained into which a gas chromatograph self-sealing rubber septum could be fitted. This device was installed in the reactor top, and solution samples could be injected into, or withdrawn from, the reactor through a 7,0 - 10,0 cm long 20 or 22 guage hypodermic exploratory needle. The self-sealing septum ensured that the reactor pressure was not accidentally released on withdrawing the needle.

Even solutions containing -90,0 + 75,0 micron size fraction suspended solids could be sampled in this manner. The use of needles larger than 18 - 20 guage, resulted in rapid destruction of the septa.

The procedure adopted to filter the solution samples depended on the nature of the suspended solids.

It was found that for samples containing relatively course sphalerite particles (say larger than 10,0 micron mean diameter), upon holding a 2,0 or 5,0ml hyperdermic sampling syringe horizontally, the solids rapidly settled out of solution. With the needle off, and the syringe kept in a horizontal position, the clear solid-free leach solution could be carefully expelled from the syringe. Generally less than 30,0 seconds elapsed between the time of sampling, and solids separation.

Solution samples containing synthetic or fine vibratory milled sphalerite were quickly injected from the sampling syringe into a gouch crucible containing a layer of analytical grade asbestos wool deposited on the glass frit.

Filtration under vacuum ensured that the time elapsed between sampling and solids separation, was generally less than approximately 20,0 seconds.

A P P E N D I X    BDESCRIPTION OF EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE  
AND  
PRETREATMENT OF NATURAL SPHALERITESB. 1    DESCRIPTION OF EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDUREIntroduction

The procedure adopted for leaching sphalerite in acidic ferric sulphate was basically the same as for leaching in aqueous sulphuric acid - with the important exception that frequently no attempt was made to monitor the reactor pressure in the former case. Only the procedure for leaching in aqueous sulphuric acid and injecting  $Fe^{3+}$  into the system when the rate of increase of the  $H_2S$  partial pressure became very small, will therefore be described below.

B. 1. 1.    INITIAL PREPARATIONS

- (i) While heating the reactor (containing 1 ℓ aqueous  $H_2SO_4$  but no sphalerite) to the desired temperature,  $N_2$  gas was purged

into the solution for up to 30,0 minutes. Sufficient agitation was maintained using the stirrer, to finely disperse the N<sub>2</sub> gas bubbles.

- (ii) With the N<sub>2</sub> gas switched off and the reactor sealed, the agitation rate was set at 800,0 - 1000,0 r.p.m. and the system left to reach thermal equilibrium at the exact desired temperature. Thermometers installed in both the gas cap and the solution demonstrated that these zones achieved thermal equilibrium at the same temperature within 1,0 - 2,0 minutes.
- (iii) The desired chart recorder graph paper drive speed and transducer millivolt scale expansion were set. All information relating to the experimental conditions were recorded on the recorder graph paper, and the recorder chart drive was switched on.

#### B. 1. 2. COMMENCEMENT OF REACTION

The following sequence of actions was performed as rapidly as possible:

- (i) The stirrer was switched off.
- (ii) The solids were injected into the reactor.
- (iii) The reactor was momentarily vented to atmospheric pressure and then tightly sealed.



- (iv) The stirrer and stop watch (calibrated in 0,2 second intervals) were simultaneously switched on.

B. 1. 3. SAMPLING DURING THE COURSE OF REACTION

- (i) Samples were taken at desired time intervals by injecting, for example 5ml leach solution similar to that initially in the reactor , and then withdrawing 5ml leach solution. In this way the total pressure within the reactor was affected minimally. The dilution and cooling effects introduced by injecting 5ml into 1,0ℓ solution was found to be negligibly small.
- (ii) The solution sample was filtered (as described in section A.6. ).
- (iii) An A-grade pipette was used to pipette 1,0ml of the filtered leach sample into a 100,0ml volumetric flask containing slightly acidified double de-ionised distilled water. The solution in the flask was made up to 100,0ml , and transferred to an appropriately labeled bottle which was tightly sealed. The diluted samples were analysed for dissolved zinc or other metal ion using atomic adsorption techniques - (Appendix D.1.) .
- (iv) Sampling was continued at regular time

intervals until the rate of increase in the reactor pressure became very small.

B. 1. 4. INJECTION OF  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  INTO THE REACTOR

In several experiments,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas was purged into the  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  solution, without any sphalerite being present. However, the only difference the presence of sphalerite made as regards procedure, was that it was then not possible to analytically determine the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  concentration in solution. Therefore, whether the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  partial pressure was generated by leaching sphalerite or injecting  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas, the following procedure was adopted, once the  $P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  was relatively constant.

- (i) By experience it was found that the presence of, for example VMPR or activated charcoal in the reactor, resulted in catalysis of the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  oxidation by the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ . Thus the chart recorder drive speed was increased prior to injecting the ferric.
- (ii) An exact volume (2,0 or 5,0ml for example), of the reactor solution was removed. (Switching off the stirrer during this operation eliminated gas being withdrawn with the liquid phase.)
- (iii) An identical volume (to that removed) of highly concentrated  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  solution was rapidly injected into the reactor.

- (iv) The initial rate of decrease of the  $P_{H_2S}$  was measured and taken as being proportional to the initial rate of  $H_2S$  oxidation by the  $Fe^{3+}$ .
- (v) Frequently there was sufficient residual  $H_2S$  after all the  $Fe^{3+}$  had been reduced to  $Fe^{2+}$ , to repeat steps (ii) - (iv) using different volumes of injected  $Fe^{3+}$ . Thus initial rates of  $H_2S$  oxidation could be measured using different initial  $H_2S$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  concentrations.
- (vi) The samples drawn in step (ii) were sometimes filtered and diluted in order to analyse the  $Zn^{2+}$  or total Fe concentrations.

B. 1. 5. FILTRATION AND WASHING OF FINAL LEACHED SOLIDS

Frequently the entire final leach solution was filtered and washed in order to collect all the residual solid leached material and determine the total final surface area. This was especially so in those experiments in which sphalerite solids had been leached to relatively large extents of zinc recovery in acidic ferric sulphate media. The procedure adopted was as follows :

- (i) The leach solution was filtered under vacuum in a buchner funnel using Whatman (number 1) qualitative grade filter paper.

(It was necessary to use finer paper when filtering BDH or vibratory milled sphalerite solids.)

- (ii) The filter cake was washed with several cake displacements of distilled water.
- (iii) The filter cake was oven dried at between 100,0 - 105,0 ° C , and weighed.
- (iv) In the case of granular solids leached in acidic ferric sulphate media, a small mass of solids was sometimes removed and kept for subsequent S.E.M. observation.
- (v) The dried solids were washed with  $CCl_4$  in a Soxhlet apparatus to remove all elemental sulphur.
- (vi) The  $CCl_4$  washed solids were oven dried and weighed. The elemental sulphur was recovered by distilling off the  $CCl_4$  solvent (which was recycled) and drying the precipitated  $S^0$ .
- (vii) The mass of  $S^0$  was weighed.
- (viii) For many runs, samples of the filtrate were bottled and stored.

B. 2. PRETREATMENT OF NATURAL SPHALERITES

The PR and ZCR industrial flotation sphalerite concentrates were initially dispersed and washed in water containing Teepol detergent to break down agglomerates, and remove organic flotation reagents possibly present on the particle surfaces. The WBM sphalerite obtained in lump form was either wet ground in a laboratory ball mill or dry ground using a Siebtechnik laboratory vibratory mill.

The dispersed PR, ZCR and the milled WBM sphalerites were wet screened through a 38,0 $\mu$ m screen to remove the fines fraction. The +38,0 $\mu$ m fractions were oven dried and dry screened into several discrete size fractions ranging between 38,0  $\mu$ m and 125,0 $\mu$ m. The -38,0 $\mu$ m fines were separated into discrete size fractions ranging from 38,0 $\mu$ m down to approximately 9,0 $\mu$ m using a Warman cyclosizer, and then dried.

Further pretreatment of the WBM, PR and ZCR sphalerites by washing in dilute acid resulted in the removal of oxide coatings possibly present and of gangue (most likely  $MgCO_3$ ). Removal of the latter was found to significantly affect the specific surface areas of the PR and ZCR sphalerites.

In addition to using the WBM, PR and ZCR sphalerites in their granular form, part of the acid-washed +38,0 $\mu$ m size fractions were finely milled to powder consistency by extensive (5 minutes) vibratory milling in a Siebtechnik laboratory scale vibratory mill.

These vibratory milled sphalerites (designated as VMWBM, VMPR, and VMZCR) were also used in this form in leaching experiments in addition to the BDH, WBM, PR and ZCR sphalerites. The synthetic BDH sphalerite was not pretreated in any way prior to leaching.



A P P E N D I X CCHEMICALS USED IN LEACHING EXPERIMENTS

The source and composition of the various sphalerites used have been described in Chapter 3. The leach solutions used were prepared as follows:

C. 1. AQUEOUS SULPHURIC ACID

Bulk supplies (approximately 25,0 ℓ at a time) of 1,0M or 2,0M  $H_2SO_4$  were prepared by adding analar grade concentrated  $H_2SO_4$  to double deionised distilled (d.d.d.) water. The acid concentrations were analysed and adjusted until  $\pm 0,5\%$  of the desired molarity had been achieved. For experiments which required 0,5M  $H_2SO_4$ , the 1,0M  $H_2SO_4$  was diluted 50:50 with d.d.d. water.

C. 2. ACIDIC FERRIC SULPHATE SOLUTION

Solutions with desired ferric ion concentrations were generally prepared by dissolving the required mass of Kanto Chemical Co. guaranteed reagent or extra pure reagent grade ferric sulphate crystals in sufficient d.d.d. water to give 1 ℓ of solution.

Measureable free acid was formed by hydrolysis of the ferric ions (with a resultant ratio -  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]: [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4] \simeq 2,0$ ) and except in isolated experiments, no additional  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  was added. Selection of the ferric ion concentration required for each run was based on the extent of leaching and the initial mass of the sphalerite chosen for the experiment in which the solution was to be used. The ferric ion and  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  concentrations were measured in duplicate before commencing each leach experiment.

In several experiments volumes of up to 40,0 ml concentrated (150,0 - 160,0 g/l  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ) acidic ferric sulphate solution were added to 1 l 0,5 M, 1,0 M or 2,0 M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  to give solutions with low  $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]: [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]$  ratios. No attempt was made to measure the ferric ion or changes in  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  concentration resulting from adding such small amounts of the acidic ferric sulphate solution; and it was assumed that the acid concentration remained unaffected.

A P P E N D I X     DMETHODS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSISD. 1.     DETERMINATION OF DISSOLVED ZINC ,  
IRON OR COPPER IN SOLUTION

A Perkin-Elmer model 303 atomic adsorption (A.A.) spectrophotometer with an air-acetylene flame, and a Tarkan flatbed chart recorder was used.

Prepared Solution

Calibration samples were prepared by diluting "Searle" 1,0 g/l zinc, iron or copper spectrophotometry standardised solutions (accurate to within  $\pm 0,5\%$ ) with  $H_2SO_4$  acidified double deionised distilled water to concentrations within the A.A. manufacturer's recommended sensitivity ranges. These diluted samples were used to calibrate the A.A. adsorption as a function of metal ion concentration for analysis of leach solution samples.

Method

- 1) 5,0 or 10,0 ml samples of leach solution were taken and filtered as soon as possible at discrete time intervals during the course of an experiment - (see section B. 1. 3. for details of sampling procedure).
- 2) Small (usually 1,0 ml) aliquots of the filtered leach samples were diluted using  $H_2SO_4$  acidified double deionised distilled water to within the metal ion concentration ranges recommended by the A.A. manufacturer.
- 3) The percentage adsorption of the diluted calibration and leach samples were measured using the A.A. .
- 4) Percentage adsorption versus concentration calibration curves were drawn from which the metal concentrations of the leach solutions were interpolated.
- 5) Appropriate dilution factors were used to calculate the metal concentrations in the original leach solutions.

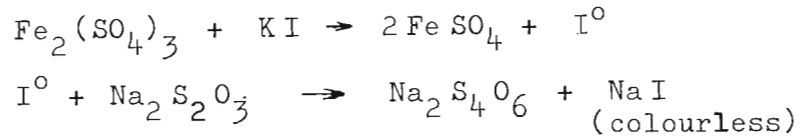
D. 2. FERRIC ION (Fe<sup>3+</sup>) DETERMINATIONPrepared solutions

A standard 0,179 N sodium thiosulphate solution was prepared by dissolving 44,424 g Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> · 5H<sub>2</sub>O in recently boiled distilled water and making up to 1,0 l. Approximately 3 drops chloroform and 0,1 g/l Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was added.

Then 1,0 ml 0,179 N Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> = 0,01 g Fe<sup>3+</sup>

Method

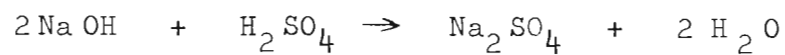
- 1) Add an excess of KI crystals to an aliquote of the leach sample.
- 2) Titrate with the standard sodium thio-sulphate solution until the range brown colour disappears.
- 3) Near the end point the solution becomes pale yellow, and at this point a crystal of KI may be added to determine whether sufficient KI is present.
- 4) At the end point the solution is colourless.
- 5) Calculate the concentration of Fe<sup>3+</sup> in the original leach solution.

ReactionsD. 3. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> DETERMINATIONPrepared solutions

- a) Phenol - phthalein indicator
- b) Standardised 0,2N NaOH solution.

Method

- 1) A few drops of phenol-phthalein indicator is added to an aliquot of the H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solution.
- 2) The standardised NaOH is titrated until permanent red colour first appears.
- 3) Calculate the H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> concentration in the original leach solution.

Reaction

D. 4. H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> DETERMINATION IN SOLUTIONS  
CONTAINING Fe<sup>2+</sup> / Fe<sup>3+</sup> IONS

Prepared Solutions

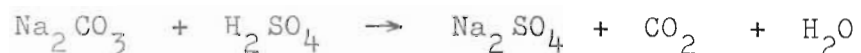
- a) Mixed indicator - 0,2 g dimethyl yellow + 0,2 g methyl blue dissolved in 200,0 ml methanol.
- b) 0,204 N Sodium carbonate prepared by dissolving 10,8110 g oven dried (at 533,0 K - 543,0 K) Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> with distilled water up to 1 l.

Then 1 ml 0,203 N Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> = 0,01g H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

Method

- 1) Any ferric ion present in an aliquot of the leach solution must first be reduced to ferrous ion (i.e. add KI crystals and titrate with Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> as in section D. 2.).
- 2) Add 3 drops mixed indicator to the aliquot and titrate with the standard Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution until a green colour indicates that end point is reached.

Reaction





D. 5. DETERMINATION OF ELEMENTAL SULPHUR IN  
LEACH RESIDUE

Carbon tetrachloride solvent was used in a Soxhlet apparatus to dissolve elemental sulphur from leach residue contained in a tared permeable paper thimble.

Method

- 1) The final leach solution is filtered through number 1 Whatman filter paper.
- 2) The filter cake is oven dried at 378,0 K, and allowed to cool in a dessicator.
- 3) The dried residue is weighed and placed in a tared permeable paper thimble.
- 4) The elemental sulphur is extracted from the residue in the thimble in the Soxhlet apparatus using carbon tetrachloride for six hours.
- 5) The residual solids and thimble are oven dried, cooled and weighed and the solids mass is calculated.
- 6) The amount of sulphur is determined by difference.
- 7) The loaded solvent is transferred to a tared

conical flask, and the  $\text{CCl}_4$  is distilled off and condensed.

- 8) The conical flask containing the dried precipitated sulphur is dried, and the mass of  $\text{S}^0$  recovered is calculated.

#### D. 6. DETERMINATION OF DISSOLVED $\text{H}_2\text{S}$

##### Prepared solutions

- a) A starch solution was prepared as described by Vogel (1961, page 347).
- b) A 0,1N iodine solution was prepared and standardised as described by Vogel (1961, p 354, 355).
- c) A 0,1M Sodium arsenite solution was prepared as described by Vogel (1961)

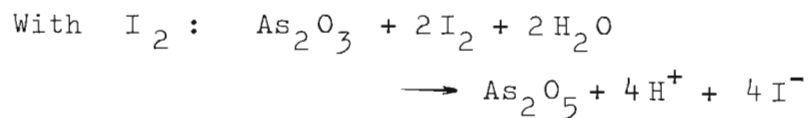
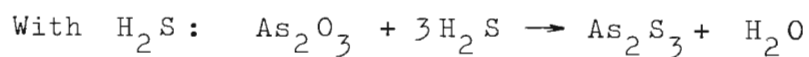
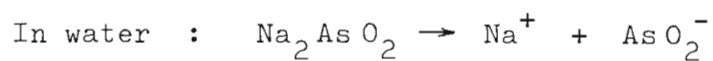
Then  $1 \text{ ml } 1,0 \text{ N } \text{As}_2\text{O}_3 \equiv 0,02556 \text{ g } \text{H}_2\text{S}$

##### Method

- 1) Place 20,0 ml standard 0,1M sodium arsenite into a 100 ml volumetric flask.
- 2) Add sufficient  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  to render solution distinctly acid.
- 3) Add 10,0 ml of sample and mix well.

- 4) Yellow precipitate of arseneous sulphide forms, but the liquid itself is colourless.
- 5) Make up to 100,0 ml mark with distilled water and shake thoroughly.
- 6) Filter mixture through dry filter paper into dry vessel.
- 7) Remove 50,0 ml of filtrate and neutralise with 1M sodium bicarbonate solution.
- 8) Titrate with standard 0,1M  $I_2$  solution with a few drops starch solution to the first blue colour. Titration must be carried out between 4,0 pH 9,0 , best value being 6,5. pH must be adjusted using sodium bicarbonate.

### Reactions

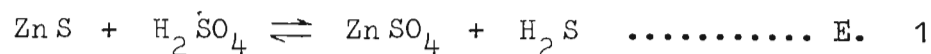


A P P E N D I X     E

ASPECTS RELATING TO THE USE OF H<sub>2</sub>S PARTIAL  
PRESSURES TO DETERMINE ZINC ION AND H<sub>2</sub>S  
CONCENTRATIONS IN H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> SOLUTION

E. 1.     P<sub>H<sub>2</sub>S</sub> MONITORING OF SPHALERITE  
DISSOLUTION AND H<sub>2</sub>S OXIDATION KINETICS

The overall reaction stoichiometry of sphalerite leaching in aqueous sulphuric acid is :-



In the presence of a gas cap, diffusion of H<sub>2</sub>S from the liquid to gaseous phase occurs and if diffusion is not rate limiting -



The mole fraction of H<sub>2</sub>S in the gas phase is related to the mole fraction of H<sub>2</sub>S in the liquid phase by Henry's law:-

$$H_c = \frac{P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{x_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 3}$$

where H<sub>c</sub> = Henry's law constant;

$P_{H_2S}$  =  $H_2S$  partial pressure or mole fraction  
of  $H_2S$  in the gas phase;

$x_{H_2S}$  = mole fraction of  $H_2S$  in the liquid  
phase.

According to Perry (4th Edition) Henry's law holds well for a large number of gases under conditions such that the partial pressure of a given gas does not exceed about 100,0 kPa. The C.R.C. handbook (55th Edition) indicates that Henry's law only strictly applies to gases which do not unite chemically with the solvent.

Now for  $H_2S$  dissolved in water :—

$$x_{H_2S} = \frac{[H_2S]_l}{[H_2S]_l + [H_2O]} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 4}$$

where  $[H_2O] = 55,56 \text{ kg - mole / m}^3$ ,

assuming  $[H_2S]_l \ll [H_2O]$  gives -

$$x_{H_2S} = \frac{[H_2S]_l}{55,56} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 5}$$

Substituting equation E. 5 for  $x_{H_2S}$  in  
equation E. 3 gives -

$$\frac{P_{H_2S}}{[H_2S]_l} = \left( \frac{H_c}{55,56} \right) \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 6}$$

Define a calculated distribution coefficient  $K_D$  as  
follows :

$$(K_D)_{\text{calc}} = \frac{H_c}{55,56} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 7}$$

and hence also -

$$\frac{P_{H_2S}}{[H_2S]_l} = (K_D)_{calc} \quad \dots\dots\dots E. 8$$

Equation E. 7 may be used to calculate values of  $K_D$ . Figure E.1 plots  $(K_D)_{calc}$  values (calculated using values of  $H_c$  presented by Perry) as a function of temperature for  $H_2S$  dissolved in non-acidic water. Equation E. 8 may then be used to calculate either the  $H_2S$  partial pressure (if  $[H_2S]_l$  is known) or  $[H_2S]_l$  (if  $P_{H_2S}$  is known) using  $(K_D)_{calc}$ .

Romankiw (1962) demonstrated that the solubility of  $H_2S$  was affected by the presence of  $H_2SO_4$  in solution, and that the ratio  $P_{H_2S} / [H_2S]_l$  for a given  $[H_2S]_l$  value decreases with increasing  $H_2SO_4$  concentration. The distribution coefficient may be determined experimentally by measuring the  $P_{H_2S}$  and  $[H_2S]_l$ , thus -

$$(K_D)_{exp} = \left( \frac{P_{H_2S}}{[H_2S]_l} \right)_{exp} \quad \dots\dots\dots E. 9$$

In a sphalerite leaching system, in which  $H_2S$  is produced stoichiometrically along with  $Zn^{2+}$  in a reactor containing a gas cap the distribution coefficient  $(K_D)_{exp}$  may be determined as follows:

According to mass balance in a system containing liquid and gaseous phases :-

$$[H_2S]_{total} = [H_2S]_l + [H_2S]_g \quad \dots\dots E. 10$$

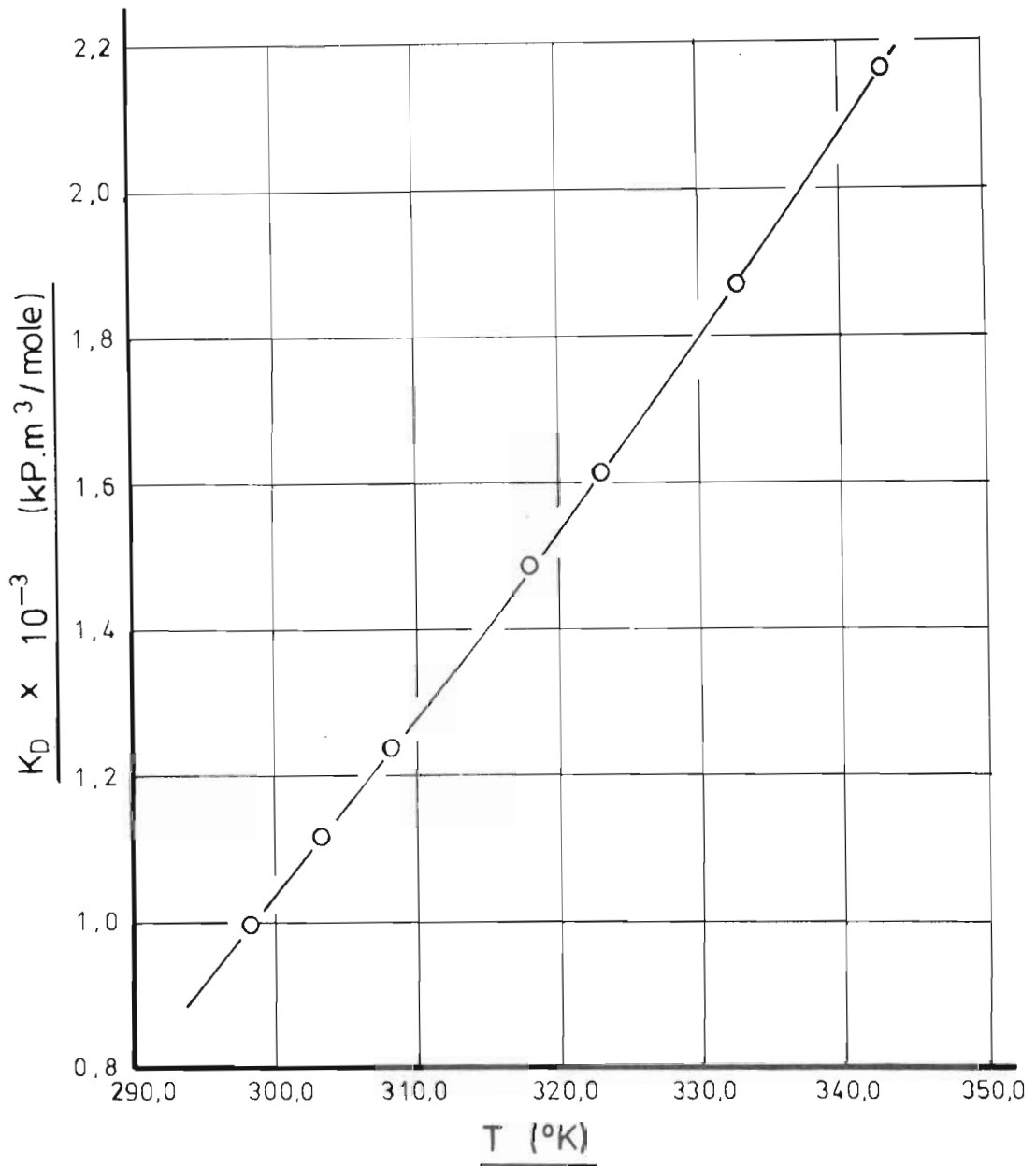


Fig.E.1

Effect of temperature  $T$  on the distribution coefficient  $K_D$  for  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  dissolved in water.

$K_D$  values calculated using Henry's law and tabulated Henry's constant data presented by Perry (4th edition)



Now, from the ideal gas law -

$$[H_2S]_g = \frac{P_{H_2S} \cdot V_g}{RT} \dots\dots\dots E. 11$$

and from equation E. 9 -

$$[H_2S]_l = \frac{P_{H_2S} \cdot V_l}{(K_D)_{exp}} \dots\dots\dots E. 12$$

Substituting equations E. 11 and E. 12 into E. 10 -

$$[H_2S]_{total} = \frac{P_{H_2S} \cdot V_l}{(K_D)_{exp}} + \frac{P_{H_2S} \cdot V_g}{RT} \dots\dots\dots E. 13$$

or expressed in terms of moles of H<sub>2</sub>S per volume liquid :-

$$[H_2S]_{total} = \frac{P_{H_2S}}{(K_D)_{exp}} + \frac{P_{H_2S} \cdot V_g}{RT \cdot V_l} \dots\dots\dots E. 14$$

Rearranging equation E. 14 gives -

$$\frac{[H_2S]_{total}}{P_{H_2S}} = \frac{1}{(K_D)_{exp}} + \frac{V_g}{RT \cdot V_l} \dots\dots\dots E. 15$$

In a sphalerite leaching system

$$[Zn^{2+}] = [H_2S]_{total} \dots\dots\dots E. 16$$

hence

$$\frac{[Zn^{2+}]}{P_{H_2S}} = \frac{1}{(K_D)_{exp}} + \frac{V_g}{RT \cdot V_l} \dots\dots\dots E. 17$$

Define a distribution ratio  $C_D$  based on experimentally measured  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  values ,

$$(C_D)_{exp} = \frac{[Zn^{2+}]}{P_{H_2S}} \dots\dots\dots E. 18$$

Thus

$$(C_D)_{exp} = \frac{1}{(K_D)_{exp}} + \frac{V_g}{RT V_l} \dots\dots\dots E. 19$$

and rearranging equation E. 19 to express  $K_D$  in terms of  $C_D$  gives -

$$(K_D)_{exp} = 1.0 / \left( (C_D)_{exp} - \frac{V_g}{RT V_l} \right) \dots\dots\dots E. 20$$

The experimental distribution ratio  $(C_D)_{exp}$  may therefore be determined during a leaching experiment, and the distribution coefficient  $(K_D)_{exp}$  be calculated using equation E. 20. In section E. 2. an expression is developed based on experimental results which relates  $(K_D)_{exp}$  to  $(K_D)_{calc}$  , temperature and  $[H_2SO_4]$  .

The expressions derived in this section are useful because during the leaching of sphalerite in aqueous  $H_2SO_4$  solution, the  $H_2S$  partial pressure can be monitored continuously but the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  need only be determined at discrete time intervals. Then having determined  $(C_D)_{exp}$  from equation E. 19 and  $(K_D)_{exp}$  from equation E. 20 , the initial rates of  $Zn^{2+}$  or  $H_2S_l$  produced and subsequent  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $[H_2S]$  values may be calculated using measured  $H_2S$  partial pressure values in equations E. 18 and E. 9 respectively.

E. 2. RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN EXPERIMENTAL AND  
THEORETICAL  $H_2S$  DISTRIBUTION COEFFICIENTS

In this section a model is developed which relates the distribution coefficient  $K_D$  of  $H_2S$  gas dissolved in aqueous  $H_2SO_4$ , to the  $H_2SO_4$  concentration and temperature of the solution. Such a relationship is useful in that during sphalerite leaching, it is necessary only to monitor the  $P_{H_2S}$  continuously without analysing the solution for  $Zn^{2+}$  in order to follow the kinetics of the reaction. This is also true in the event of studying the homogeneous oxidation of  $H_2S$  by  $Fe^{3+}$  reaction, in systems in which the  $H_2S$  gas was bubbled into solution and the  $P_{H_2S}$  was monitored.

The distribution coefficient may be determined experimentally in a sphalerite leaching system using measured values of  $(C_D)_{exp}$  (defined by equation E. 18) in equation E. 19. In Appendix I experimental  $H_2SO_4$  leaching results are tabulated, and values of  $(C_D)_{exp}$  and  $(K_D)_{exp}$  are also presented in the tables.

Examination of the  $(C_D)_{exp}$  values determined at discrete time intervals during the course of a leaching experiment revealed that frequently  $(C_D)_{exp}$  decreased with time and tended to approach a constant value. For example figure E.2. plots  $(C_D)_{exp}$  versus time for several experiments.

Any such deviations of  $(C_D)_{exp}$  from constancy over the full time scale could have been caused by

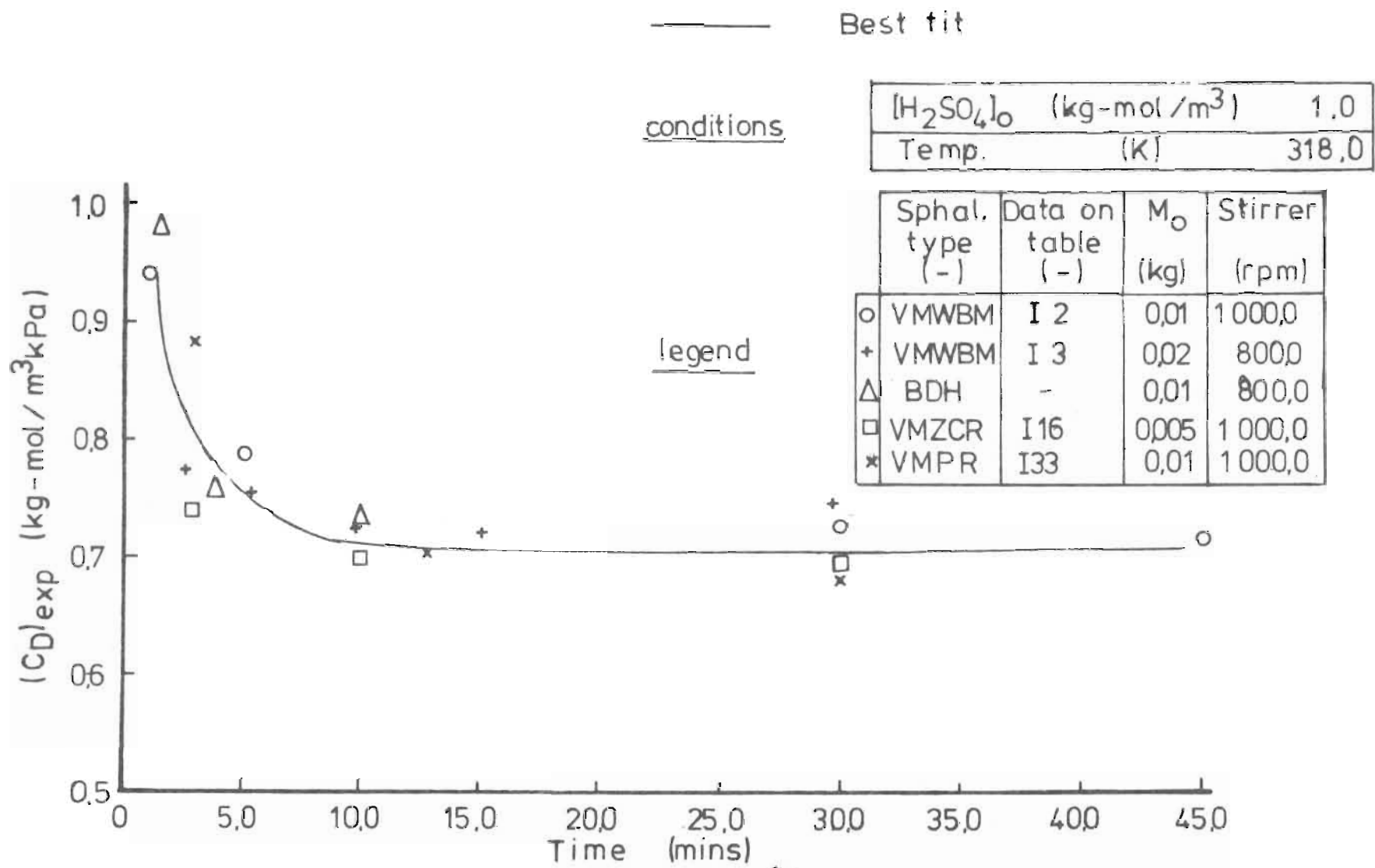


Figure E.2 Plot of  $(C_D)_{exp}$  (where  $(C_D)_{exp} = P_{H_2S} / [Zn^{2+}]$ ) versus time for various sphalerites leaching under case (i) conditions. Note that a constant value of  $(C_D)_{exp}$  is approached after about time  $t > 10$  mins

one or more of the following factors :

- (i) For samples taken shortly after time  $t = 0$ ; leaching continued at a significant rate during the time lag of say 20 - 30 seconds elapsing between sampling and filtering. Thus for samples taken at say  $t = 1$  minute, the  $Zn^{2+}$  concentration determined analytically could be up to 50,0% greater than the true value at time of sampling. As leaching apparently approaches equilibrium in the reactor and the leaching rate decreases one would expect this source of error to become progressively less significant.
- (ii) It was often difficult to establish the true initial pressure in the reactor after introducing the sample, and then switching on the reactor, which in turn resulted in the gas cap reheating to reaction temperature simultaneously as the reaction proceeded. Thus small initial errors in  $P_{H_2S}$  would tend to affect  $\{C_D\}_{exp}$  to greater extents shortly after  $t = 0$  when the total measured  $P_{H_2S}$  was relatively large.
- (iii) The stoichiometric amount of  $Zn^{2+}$  and  $H_2S$  produced may initially not have been equal.
- (iv) The initial effects of  $Zn^{2+}$  or  $H_2S$  adsorption on the sphalerite particles

may have been significant.

As the reaction rate decreases and  $[Zn^{2+}]$  and  $P_{H_2S}$  approach their maximum values, the effects of the above sources of deviation are minimised. Thus the final value of  $(C_D)_{exp}$  determined closest to largest  $P_{H_2S}$  values for each run will be subsequently used in this thesis to calculate  $(K_D)_{exp}$ .

The value of  $V_g$  used in equations E 19 or E 20 was determined experimentally from the results of injecting known volumes of solution into the reactor, and measuring the corresponding change in pressure. Details of the calculations and results are presented in Appendix E. 3. The values of  $V_g$ ,  $V_l$  and  $R$  used in equation E. 19 were -

$$\begin{aligned} V_g &= 0,35 \times 10^{-3} \quad (m^3) \\ V_l &= 1,0 \times 10^{-3} \quad (m^3) \\ R &= 8,29 \times 10^{-3} \quad (kPa \cdot m^3 / kg \cdot mol \cdot K) \end{aligned}$$

The effects of different variables on  $K_D$  are now discussed.

#### E. 2. 1 EFFECT OF $H_2SO_4$ CONCENTRATION ON $(K_D)_{exp}$

Figure E. 3. plots  $(K_D)_{exp}$  versus  $[H_2SO_4]_0$  at  $318,0^\circ K$  for the different sphalerites, and demonstrates that the  $H_2SO_4$  present in solution does significantly

————— Linear regressed fit. Line described by eqn E.2.1

<u>conditions</u>	Temp. (K)	318,0
	Stirrer (rpm)	1000,0

<u>legend</u>	○	Sphal. type (-)	M <sub>o</sub> (kg)
	×	VMWR	0,01
	□	BDH	0,004
	△	VMWBM	0,01

NOTE: All data point values have been extracted from the tables in Appendix I

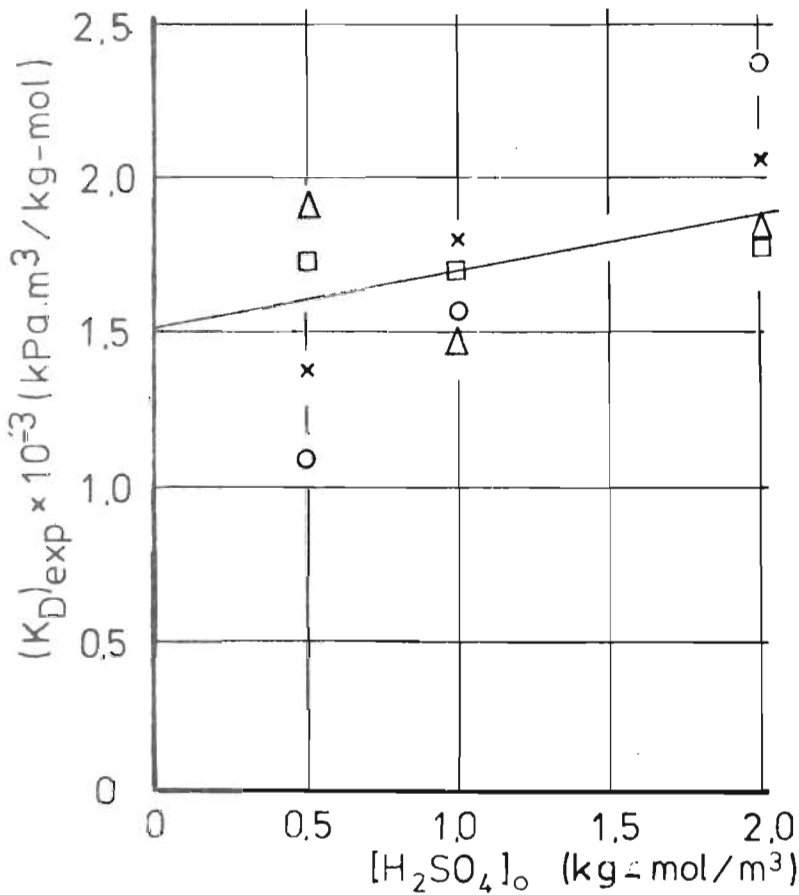


Figure E.3 Plot of experimental H<sub>2</sub>S distribution coefficient (K<sub>D</sub>)<sub>exp</sub> versus [H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>]<sub>o</sub>. ((K<sub>D</sub>)<sub>exp</sub> is defined by eqn. E.1.20)



influence the distribution of  $H_2S$  between the liquid and gas phases. The data points are rather widely scattered on figures E. 3. and a least squares linear regression on the data was performed with the following results:

$$(K_D)_{fit} = 1,52 \times 10^3 + 170,0 \times [H_2SO_4] \dots\dots\dots E. 21$$

Now  $K_D = 1,484 \times 10^3$  (as calculated from data at  $318,0^\circ K$ ), and equation E.2.1. may be expressed as

$$(K_D)_{exp} = K_D + 170,0 \times [H_2SO_4] \dots\dots\dots E. 22$$

This equation is consistent in that as  $[H_2SO_4]$  tends to zero,  $[K_D]$  tends to the theoretical value of  $K_D$ . The wide scatter in the  $[K_D]_{exp}$  data is possibly the result of the various factors enumerated in the last section.

#### E. 2. 2 EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE ON $(K_D)_{exp}$

Figure E. 4. shows an Arrhenius type plot of  $(K_D)_{exp}$  versus  $\frac{1}{T}$ . The data points were linear regressed with the following result:

$$\ln (K_D)_{fit} = 12,47 - 1,62 \times 10^3 \left( \frac{1}{T} \right) \dots\dots\dots E. 23$$

The familiar exponential form of this equation corresponds to:-

$$(K_D)_{fit} = 2,604 \times 10^5 \exp \left( \frac{-13,41}{RT} \right) \dots\dots E. 24$$

- a Linear regression through exptl. points. Line a is described by eqn. E.2.3.
- b Linear regression line demonstrating the effect of temp. on  $(K_D)_{\text{calc.}}$ .  $(K_D)_{\text{calc.}}$  is the distribution coefficient for  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  in water, calculated using Henry's law with data presented in Perry (1963).

conditions

$[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0$ (kg-mol / m <sup>3</sup> )	1,0
Stirrer (rpm)	800,0

legend

Sphal type (-)	$M_0$ (kg)
○ VMPR	0,02
× BDH	0,01
□ VMWBM	0,02
△ VMZCR	0,02

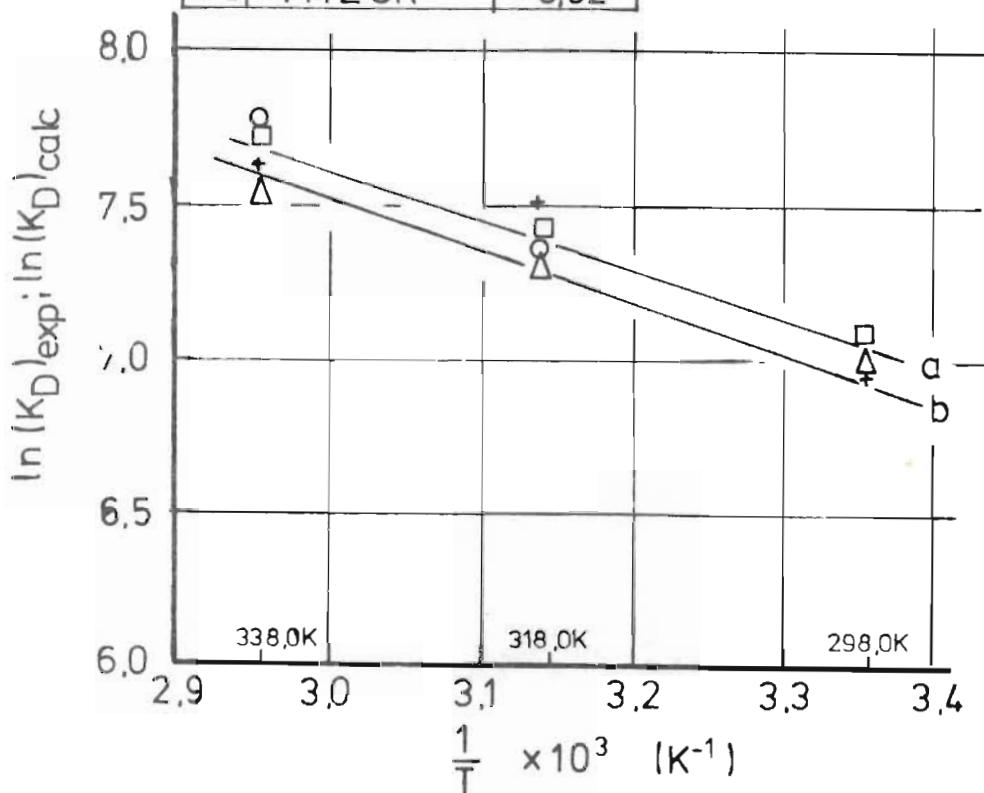


Figure E.4 Arrhenius-type plot demonstrating the effect of temperature on the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  distribution coefficient  $K_D$ .

The fitted values of  $(K_D)_{\text{exp}}$  as a function of temperature are plotted on figure E. 4. along with the values of  $K_D$  calculated using Henry's constant. The experimental  $(K_D)_{\text{exp}}$  corresponds to values obtained in 1M  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  solution, and consequently according to equation E. 22 one would expect the  $(K_D)_{\text{exp}}$  values to be greater than the theoretical  $K_D$  values by a factor of about 0,17. This is in fact so.

E. 2. 4. OVERALL MODEL EXPRESSING  $(K_D)_{\text{exp}}$  IN TERMS OF  $[\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]$  AND TEMPERATURE

As observed in equation E. 24 , the activation energy term relating the change in  $K_D$  with temperature is 13,41 mJ/kg-mol (i.e. 3,208 kcal/mole). The theoretical value for  $K_D$  at 318,0° K in neutral water is -

$$K_D = 1,484 \times 10^3$$

Therefore, at 318,0° K the pre-exponential constant  $(K_D)_0$  will be -

$$(K_D)_0 = 1,484 \times 10^3 / \exp\left(\frac{-13,41}{RT}\right) \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 25}$$

$$(K_D)_0 = 2,379 \times 10^5$$

$$\text{Hence } K_D = 2,379 \times 10^5 \exp\left(\frac{-13,41}{RT}\right) \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 26}$$

Substituting for  $K_D$  at 318,0° K in equation E. 22 gives an expression which includes the effect of

$H_2SO_4$ . Thus the final equation which may be used to calculate  $(K_D)_{calc}$  as a function of temperature and  $[H_2SO_4]$ ; -

$$(K_D)_{calc} = 2,379 \times 10^5 \times \exp\left(\frac{-13,41}{RT}\right) + 170,0 \times [H_2SO_4] \quad \dots\dots\dots E. 27$$

### E. 3. DETERMINATION OF REACTOR GAS CAP VOLUME

The gas cap volume with the pressure transducer and sensing tube was established by injecting a given volume of liquid into the reactor, and measuring the increase in pressure. A sample calculation is now given:

From ideal gas law -

$$P_1 V_{g1} = P_2 V_{g2} \quad \dots\dots\dots E. 28$$

where  $P_1$  = initial pressure in reactor  
(generally atmospheric),

$V_{g1}$  = initial total gas volume in  
reactor,

$P_2$  = reactor pressure after injecting  
liquid,

$V_{g2}$  = gas phase volume after injecting  
liquid.

$$\text{But } V_{g2} = V_{g1} - \Delta V_\ell \quad \dots\dots\dots E. 29$$

$$\text{and } P_2 = P_1 + \Delta P \quad \dots\dots\dots E. 30$$

where  $\Delta V_{\ell}$  = volume of aliquot liquid  
 injected into reactor,  
 $\Delta P$  = measured increase in reactor  
 pressure.

Hence substituting equation E. 29 into equation  
 E. 28 -

$$P_1 V_{g1} = P_2 (V_{g1} - \Delta V_{\ell}) \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 31}$$

Rearranging equation E. 31 gives -

$$V_{g1} = \Delta V_{\ell} \times \left( \frac{P_2}{P_2 - P_1} \right) \dots\dots\dots \text{E. 32}$$

Table E. 1. summarised the results of injecting  
 5,0 or 10,0 ml water into the reactor containing  
 $1,0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$  solution.

It is observed that the average reactor gas cap  
 volume was established to be  $0,348 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$ . Hence  
 in this thesis a volume of  $0,35 \times 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3$  has been  
 used throughout. No attempt was made to correct  
 the gas cap volume for the effect of density changes  
 on the liquid volume at different temperatures.

Exptl Run (-)	$P_1$ (k Pa)	$V_\ell$ $\times 10^3$ ( $m^3$ )	$\Delta P$ (k Pa)	$P_2$ (k Pa)	$V_{g1}$ $\times 10^3$ ( $m^3$ )	Data Table (-)
197	99,67*	0,1	2,785	102,5	0,368	I 25
197	99,67*	0,1	2,689	102,4	0,381	I 25
183	100,0*	0,05	1,536	101,53	0,33	L 9
169	100,0 $\oplus$	0,05	1,421	101,421	0,357	I 26
178	100,0 $\oplus$	0,05	1,566	101,566	0,324	L 3
178	100,0 $\oplus$	0,05	1,489	101,489	0,341	L 3
180	100,0 $\oplus$	0,05	1,460	101,460	0,347	L 1
211	100,0 $\oplus$	0,05	1,489	101,489	0,341	L 15
211	100,0 $\oplus$	0,05	1,489	101,489	0,341	L 15

\* Measured barometric pressure

Average:  $0,348 \times 10^3 m^3$  $\oplus$  Assumed pressure

T A B L E E. 1.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS FOR  
THE DETERMINATION OF  
REACTOR GAS CAP VOLUME  $V_{g1}$

A P P E N D I X F

SURFACE AREAS OF UNLEACHED PARTICLES  
AND AREA CHANGES DURING LEACHING

F. 1. SPECIFIC SURFACE AREAS OF UNLEACHED SPHALERITE PARTICLES

NOTE: All  $A_0$  versus  $\bar{D}$  and area change versus X data used in this section are contained within the tables presented in Appendix J. Johne (1965) describes the Ströhlein Areameter used to measure the specific surface areas reported in this thesis and the theory associated with single point B.E.T. area determinations. In actual practice, sphalerite samples weighing upto 100,0g could be used in the instrument to ensure that the total area measured fell within the recommended range ( $7,0m^2$  to  $50,0m^2$ ), and specific surface areas greater than  $0,1m^2/g$  could readily be determined with a significant degree of reproducibility.

Figures F. 1. and F. 2. compare the specific surface areas  $A_0$  of acid washed and acid unwashed WBM, PR and ZCR sphalerites, and the  $A_0$  values for solid spheres calculated as a function of diameter by the expression:-

$$A_0 = \frac{6,0}{\bar{D} \rho} m^2 / kg \quad \dots\dots\dots F. 1.$$

The density of each of the sphalerites was measured and each was found to be very close to:-

$$\rho = 4,0 \times 10^6 \text{ kg} / m^3$$

$$\text{Hence } A_0 = \frac{1,5 \times 10^{-6}}{\bar{D}} m^2 / kg \quad \dots\dots\dots F. 2.$$

It was established that the very large decrease in  $A_0$  observed as a result of acid washing the ZCR sphalerite, was due to the removal of a gauge, probably  $MgCO_3$ .



		Sphal. type	Acid Washed
legend	□	PR	No
	x	PR	Yes
	+	ZCR	No
	o	ZCR	Yes

- a  $A_o$  versus  $\bar{D}$  calculated for solid spheres using equation F.2  
 b Best fit curves through data points.

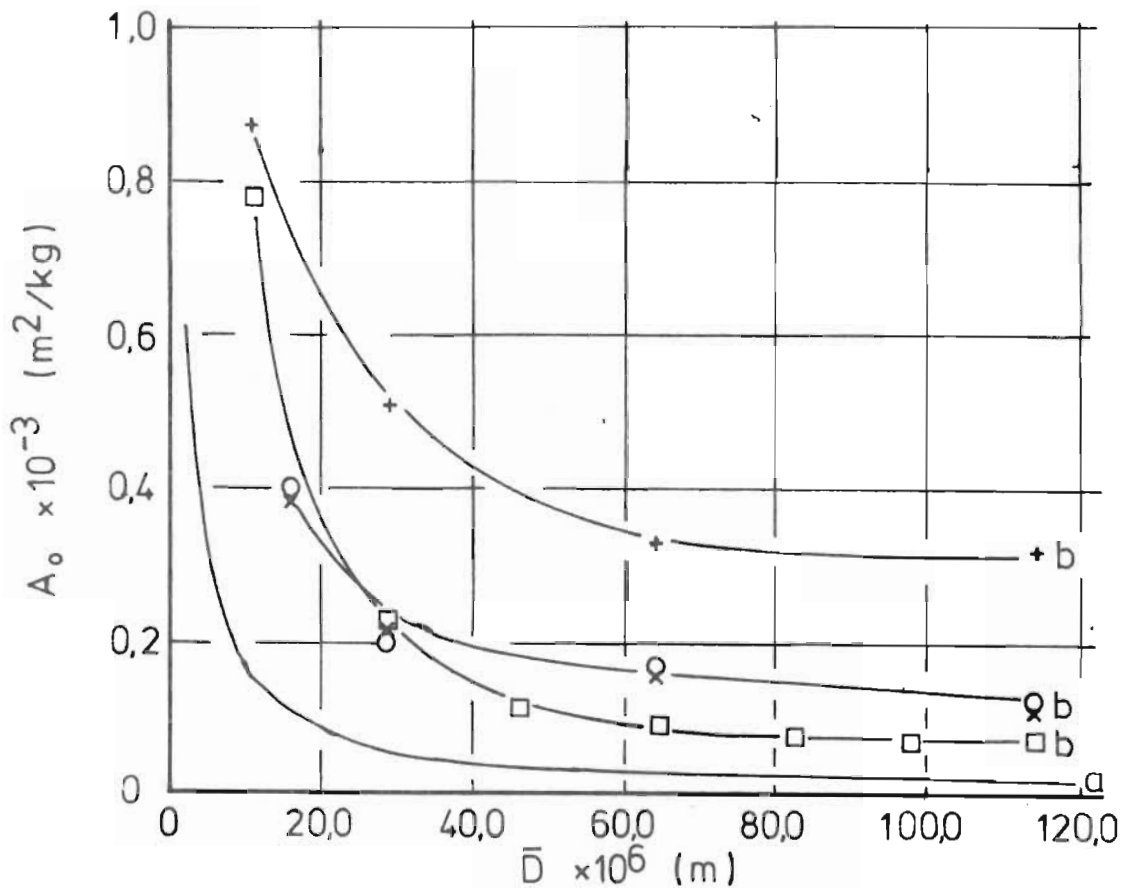


Figure F.1 Comparison of specific surface areas of PR and ZCR sphalerites before and after acid pre-treatment, with  $A_o$  values calculated for solid spheres.

legend		Sphal. type	Acid washed
x		WBM	No
o		WBM	Yes

a  $A_o$  versus  $\bar{D}$  for solid spheres calc. using eqn. F.2

b Best fit curves through data points.

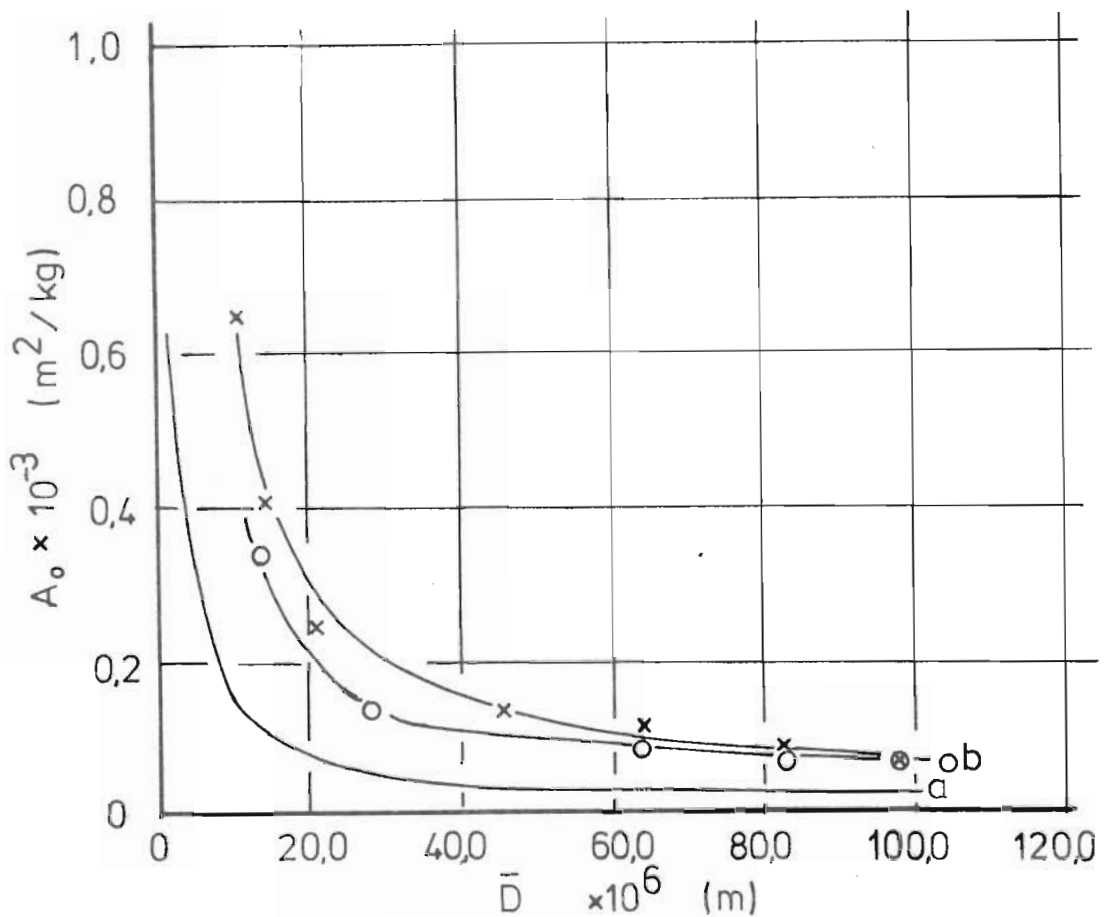


Figure F.2 Comparison of the specific surface area of WBM sphalerite before and after acid pretreatment, with  $A_o$  calculated for solid spheres using eqn.F.2.

(Relatively high concentrations of  $Mg^{2+}$  were identified in the wash solution, and unwashed ZCR particles placed in the concentrated HCl produced odourless gas bubbles which were assumed to be  $CO_2$  gas.)

It is not obvious why acid washing changed the  $A_o$  for the PR and WBM in the way it did.

Figure F. 3 plots the ratio of the measured specific surface area  $A_o : A_{sph.}$  calculated for spheres, as a function of the mean particle diameter. Linear plots are observed which are fitted by the following empirical expression which may be used to calculate the  $A_o$  for any  $\bar{D}$  over the range  $125,0 \leq \bar{D} \leq 9,0 \mu m$ .

$$A_o = A_{sph.} \times (2,6 + B \times \bar{D}) \text{ m}^2/\text{g} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 3.}$$

where  $B = 6,73 \times 10^4$  for the PR and ZCR sphalerites, and  $B = 2,0 \times 10^4$  for the WBM sphalerite.

Table F. 1. summarises the specific surface areas of the BDH and the vibratory milled sphalerites.

It is proposed that the surface areas of the sphalerites are significantly higher than that for smooth spheres of the same diameter because of the greater surface roughness, and the existence of internal or pore area.

The value of the intercept on the vertical axis of Figure F. 3., can be taken as an indication of the internal area ( $m^2/kg$ ) which is independent of  $\bar{D}$ .

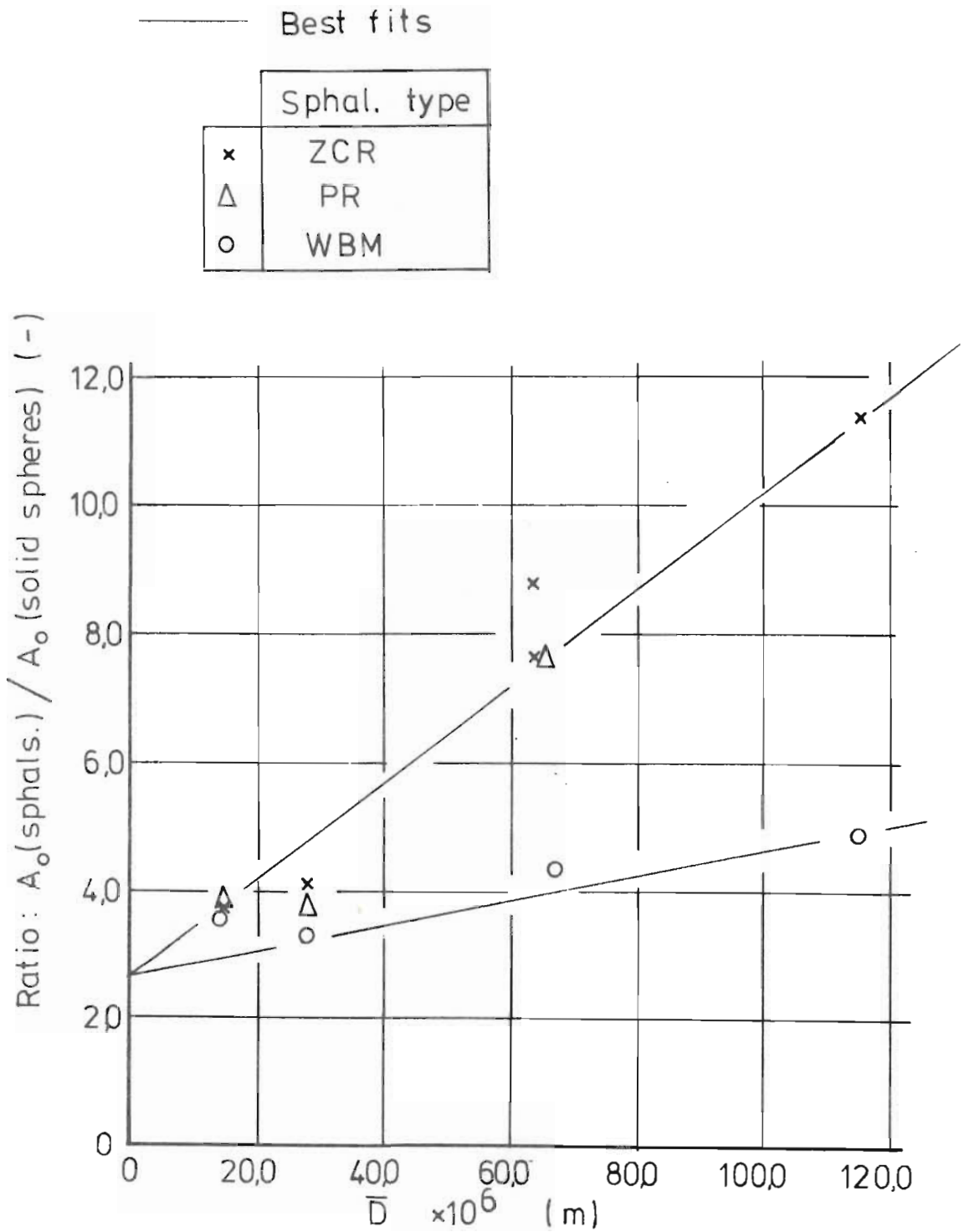


Figure F.3

Comparison of the ratios  $A_0$  (for a sphal.) to  $A_0$  (calc. for solid spheres) for the ZCR, PR and WBM sphals.

The slopes of the lines on Figure F. 3. represent the area due to roughness for a given sphalerite. (Zero slope would mean the particles were perfectly smooth.)

Therefore, if the intercept and the slope were both zero, a given substance should have a measurable surface area identical to that of smooth, solid spheres.

Figures 6. 14 to 6. 18 represent various photomicrographs taken of polished sections of WBM, ZCR and PR sphalerite particles and reveal the presence of cavities and cracks within the particles which account for the internal area.

Figures 6.1, 6.2, 6.4 & 6.9 represent S.E.M. photographs of unleached WBM, PR and ZCR particles, and reveal the existence of surface roughness which would account for additional surface area.

## F. 2. AREA CHANGES DURING LEACHING

The area remainder function  $\eta(X)$  was experimentally determined for each of the different sphalerites by leaching in acidic ferric sulphate to various extents of reaction, and measuring the specific surface area  $A$  of the  $CCl_4$  cleaned sphalerite particles using a B.E.T.  $N_2$  adsorption technique.

The experimental value of the area of the solids

remaining in a reactor may be defined as -

$$\eta(X) = \frac{M A}{M_o A_o} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 4.}$$

or

$$\eta(X) = (1 - X) \frac{A}{A_o} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 5.}$$

Knowing the final  $[Zn^{2+}]$  concentration, it was possible to calculate  $M$  by mass balance, and several checks showed that the calculated values agreed closely with the weighed values.

Figure F. 4. plots the experimental values of  $\eta$  versus  $X$  for the BDH, WBM and the VMWBM, VMPR and VMZCR sphalerites.

Curve 'a' on Figure F. 4. is the result of predicting  $\eta$  from an area remainder function describing the area change of shrinking solid spheres (i.e. corresponding to the shrinking core model).

$$\eta(X) = (1 - X)^{0,666} \quad \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 6.}$$

It is observed that the BDH and WBM sphalerites closely obey shrinking core behaviour. The vibratory milled sphalerites each exhibited an initial rapid decrease in area probably due to the initial rapid dissolution of the finest particles (which contributed disproportionately heavily to the total area).

The following empirical area remainder function

- a Curve calculated according to the shrinking core model, (equation F. 6)  
 b Curve calculated using equation F.7 (with the value of 'a' = 0,25)

legend

Sphalerite type	
x	BDH
o	WBM (-75,0+63,0 $\mu\text{m}$ size fraction)
□	VMWBM
△	VMPR
+	VMZCR

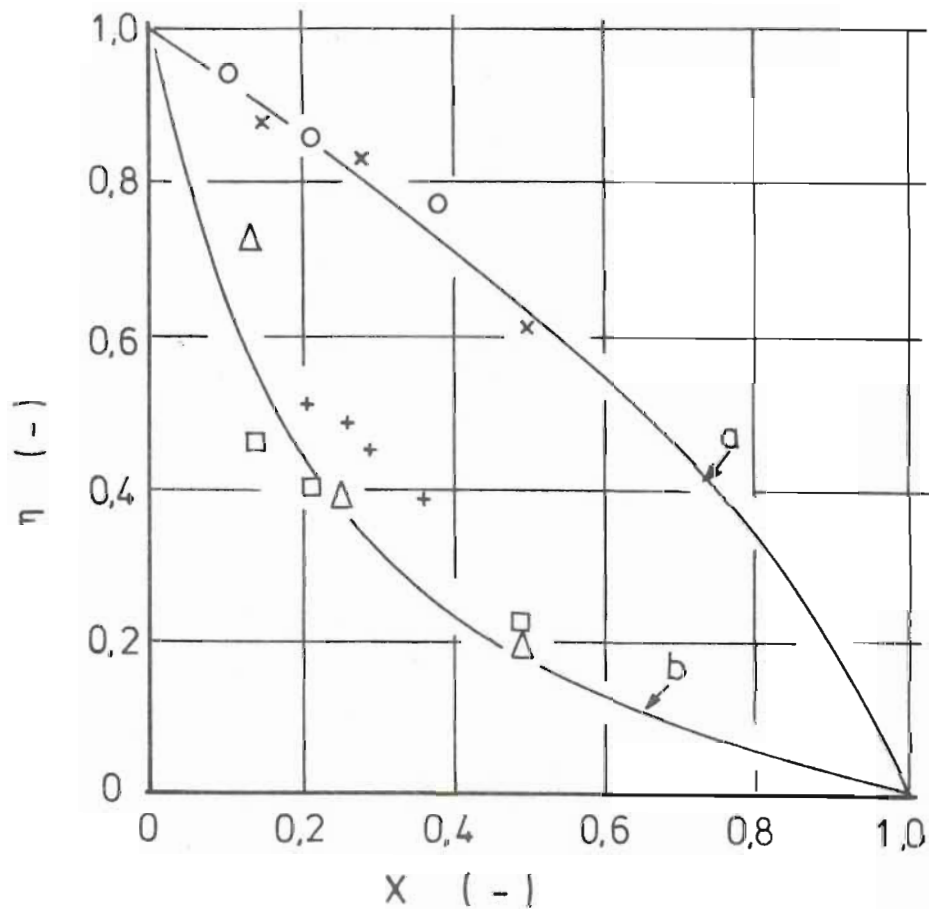


Figure F.4

Comparison between exptl. and calculated fractional area remainder  $\eta$  versus extent leached  $X$  results.



was found to fit this data well -

$$\eta(X) = \left( 1 - \frac{a + 1}{\left(\frac{a}{X} + 1\right)} \right) \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 7.}$$

Equation F. 7. is shown plotted on Figure F. 4, and with  $a = 0,25$  a reasonable fit is observed.

Figures F. 5. and F. 6. plot  $\eta(X)$  versus  $X$  for the PR and ZCR sphalerites respectively. In both cases  $\eta(X)$  rises to a maximum, the value of which is a function of  $\bar{D}$ , and then decreases.

This behaviour was the result of  $A$  in equation F. 4. increasing faster than  $M$  was decreasing, to a point beyond which the opposite occurred.

Figures 6.3, 6.5, 6.8, 6.11 & 6.13 present S.E.M. photographs of leached PR, ZCR and WBM particles and show clearly that leaching took place faster along specific zones, resulting in pitting and consequent increases in surface area. It is not clear why the WBM then exhibits shrinking core behaviour.

Figures 6. 17 and 6. 18 show photomicrographs of the results of etching polished PR and ZCR particles. Visual observation through an optical microscope showed that etching took place preferentially along grain boundaries and other stressed zones.

A model which fitted the PR and ZCR area change curves on Figures F. 5. and F. 6. was developed as follows :-

a Curve calculated according to the shrinking core model (eqn. F.6)

b,c,d and e Curves calculated using eqn F.11 with  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  values shown in the legend.

legend

Points (-)	Curves (-)	Size fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)	$\frac{dA'}{dX} \times 10^{-3}$ used in eqn F.11
x	b	-17,5 +12,5	2,6
o	c	-75,0 +63,0	3,0
□	d	-90,0 +75,0	3,60
Δ	e	+106,0 +90,0	3,44

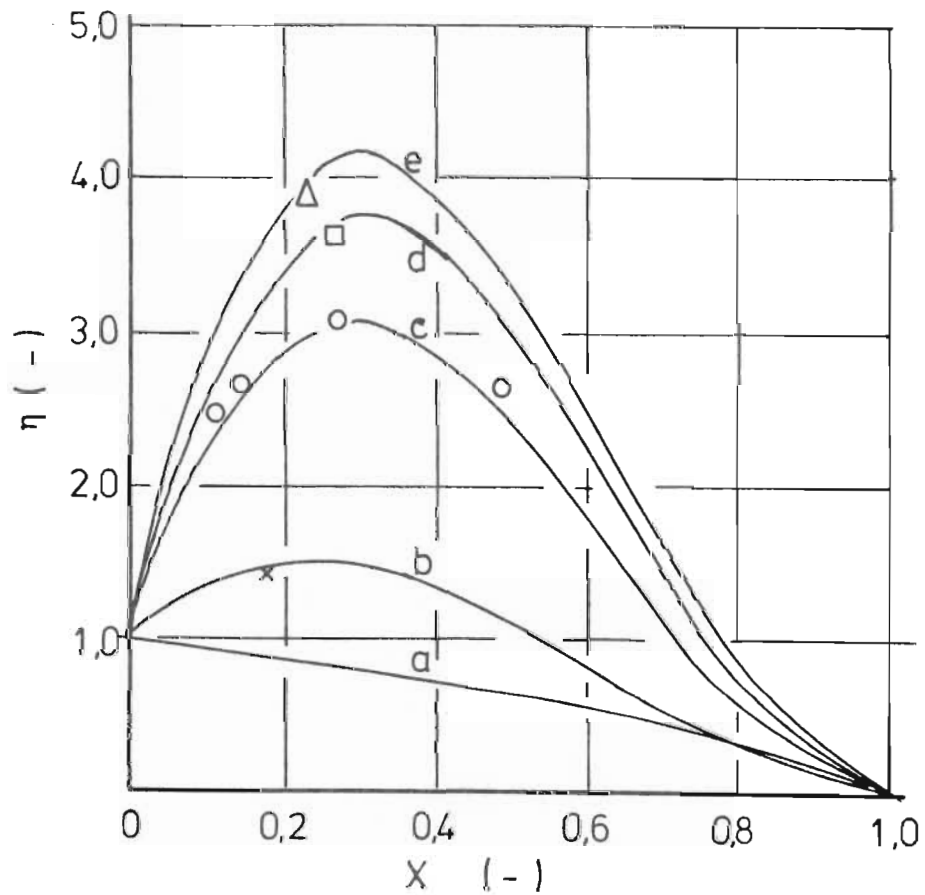


Figure F.5 Fractional area remainder  $\eta$  versus the extent of reaction  $X$  for Pr sphalerite.  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  and  $A_0$  values used in equation F.11 to calculate curves b,c,d and e were obtained off figs F.1; F.7 and F.8.

- a Curve calculated according to the shrinking core model (eqn F.6)
- b,c,d and e Curves calculated using eqn F.11 with  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  values shown in the legend.

legend

Points (-)	Curves (-)	Size fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)	$\frac{dA'}{dX} \times 10^{-3}$ used in eqn F.11
+	b	-17,5 +12,5	1,497
□	c	-75,0 +63,0	0,748
○	d	-90,0 +75,0	0,918
x	e	-106,0 +90,0	1,06

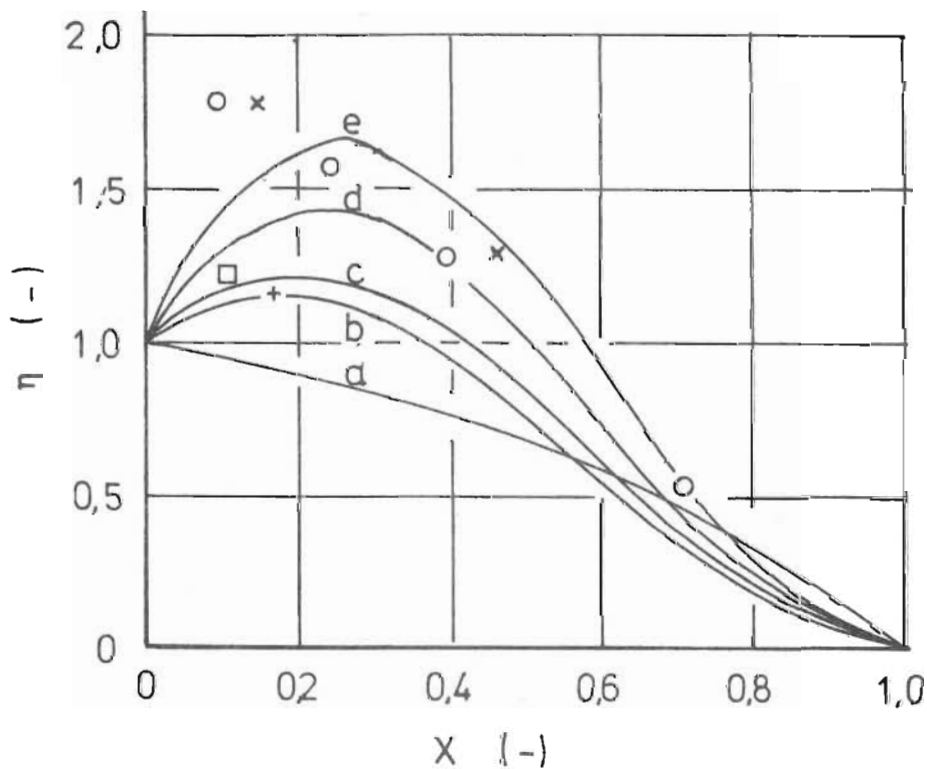


Figure F.6 Fractional area remainder  $\eta$  versus extent leached  $X$  for ZCR sphalerite.  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  and  $A_0$  values used in eqn F.11 to calculate curves b,c,d and e were obtained off figs F.1; F.7 and F.8.

An area coefficient  $A'$  was defined -

$$A' = \frac{A}{(1-X)} \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 8.}$$

Figure F. 7 shows examples of plotting  $A'$  versus  $X$  for the PR and ZCR sphalerites and straight lines are observed. The slopes  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  for each  $\bar{D}$  were measured and plotted against  $\bar{D}$  on Figure F. 8 .

In the case of the  $A'$  versus  $X$  line for ZCR sphalerite on Figure F. 7 , sphalerite had been used which had not been acid washed, and some gauge may have still been present in the residues leached to low  $X$ , thus contributing excessive area.

From Figure F. 7 it is apparant that the straight lines may be fitted by a linear model -

$$A' = A_0 + \left(\frac{dA'}{dX}\right) X \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 9.}$$

Equating  $A'$  in equation F. 9 with  $A'$  in equation F. 8, produces -

$$A = \left( A_0 + \left(\frac{dA'}{dX}\right) X \right) (1-X) \dots\dots \text{F. 10.}$$

and equating  $A$  in equation F. 10. with  $A$  in equation F. 5 produced the area remainder function -

$$\eta(X) = \left( 1,0 + \frac{dA'}{dX} \frac{X}{A_0} \right) (1-X)^2 \dots\dots\dots \text{F. 11.}$$

Equation F. 11. is shown plotted on Figures F. 5. and F. 6. using the experimental values of  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  shown on Figure F. 8 . The shape of the experimental  $\eta(X)$  vs  $X$  data is observed to be fitted well by this function.

Best fit lines.

legend

	Sphal type (-)	Size fraction $\times 10^6$ (m)
x	PR	-75,0 +63,0
o	ZCR	-90,0 +75,0

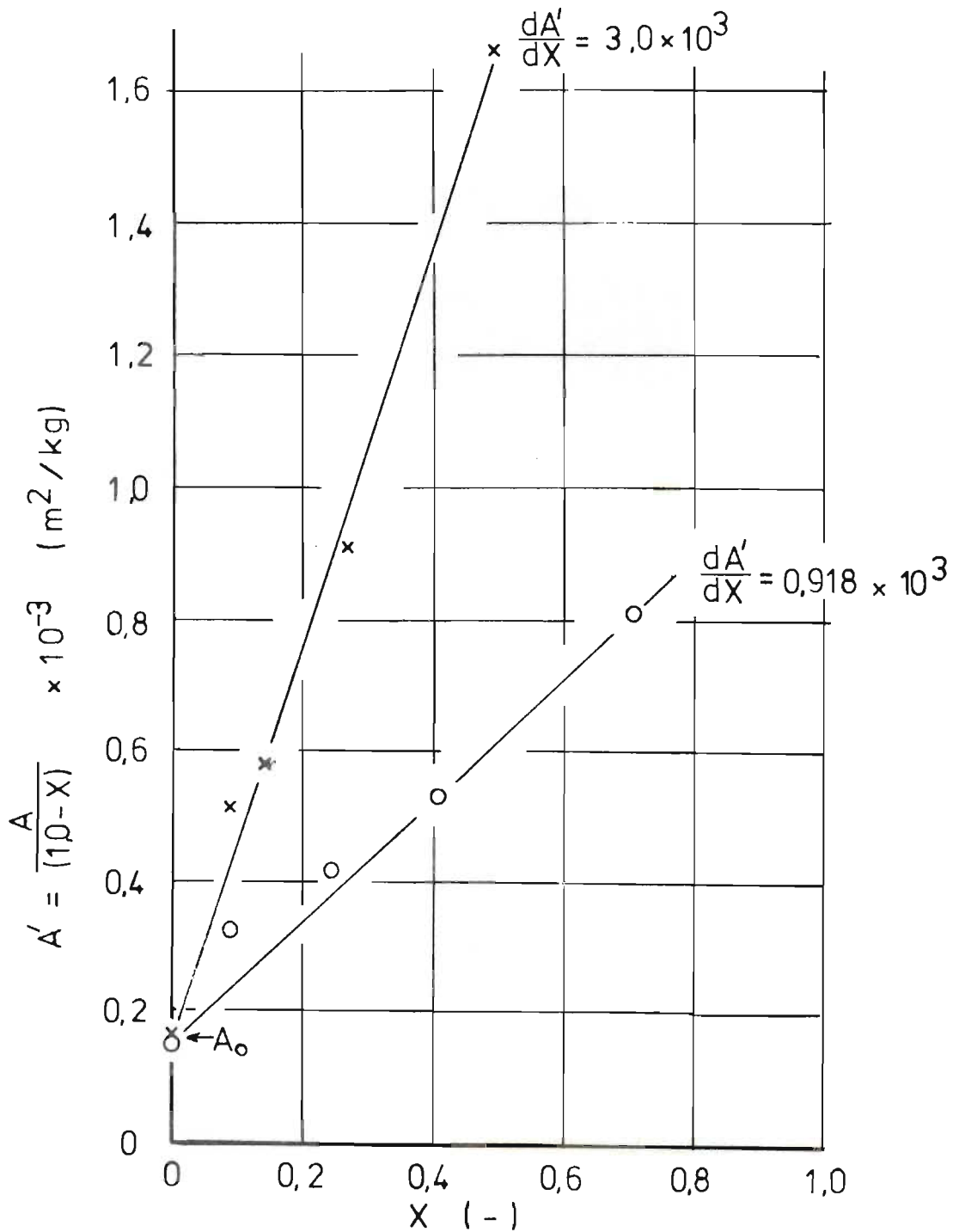


Figure F.7 Examples of plotting  $A'$  versus  $X$  for PR and ZCR sphalerites, and of measuring  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  from the slopes of the best fit lines

Sphal. type	
○	PR
×	ZCR

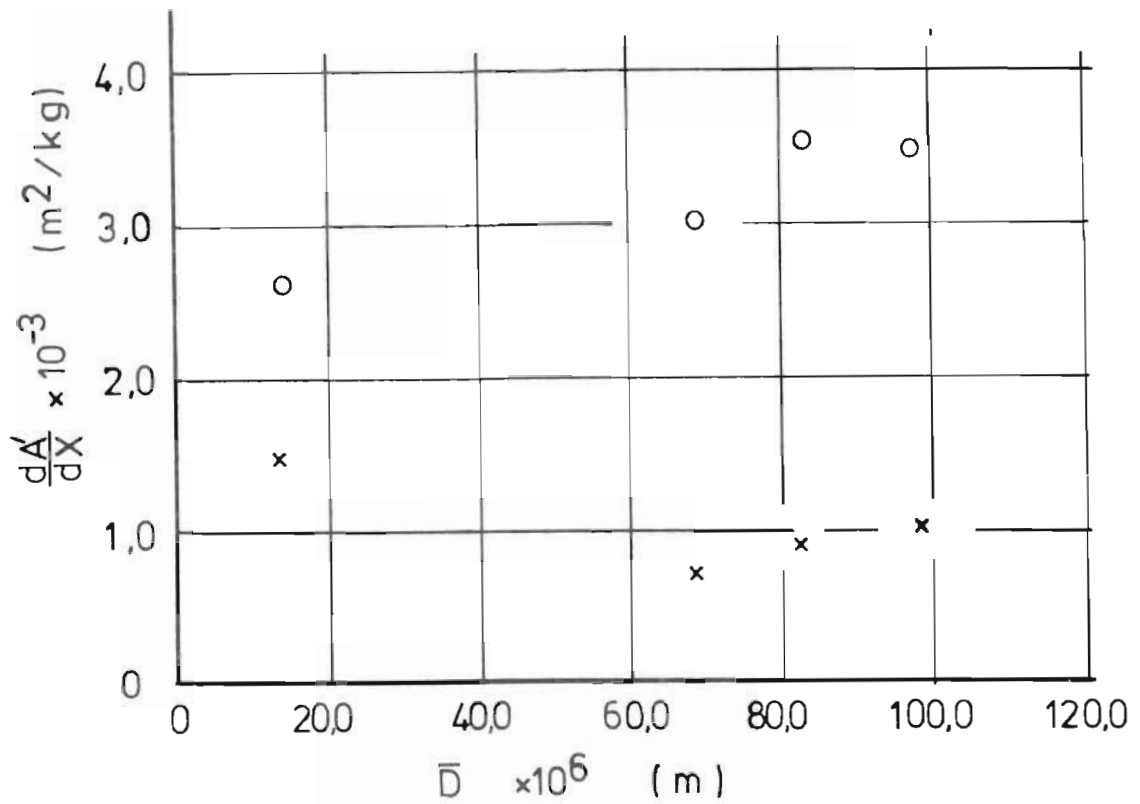


Figure F.8  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  versus  $\bar{D}$  for PR and ZCR sphalerites. The  $\frac{dA'}{dX}$  values plotted here were measured off  $A'$  versus  $X$  plots as shown in the examples on figure F.7.

A P P E N D I X    G

DATA    PROCESSING    PROCEDURES

G. 1    PROCESSING OF CASE (i) DATA

When sphalerite was leached in aqueous  $H_2SO_4$  (with  $[Fe^{3+}]_0 = 0$ ), the change in  $H_2S$  partial pressure ( $P_{H_2S}$ ) with time was monitored. The initial rate  $(\frac{d P_{H_2S}}{d t})_0$  was often difficult to measure directly from the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time trace.

The following empirical equation was found to fit the shape of the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves :-

$$P_{H_2S} = \frac{a t}{b + t} \quad \dots\dots\dots G. 1$$

where  $(\frac{d P_{H_2S}}{d t})_0 = \frac{a}{b} \quad \dots\dots\dots G. 2$

and as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  and equilibrium is approached

$$(P_{H_2S})_{eq} = a \quad \dots\dots\dots G. 3$$

Values were fitted to the constants  $a$  and  $b$  of equation G. 1 by the following regression technique .

Initial guesses were assigned to the two constants  $a$  and  $b$  and equation G. 1 was integrated numerically using the computer programme DIFSUB by Gear (1971). The  $P_{H_2S}$  values at discrete time intervals were established by



unequal interval interpolation, and the sum of squares of the differences between these interpolated  $P_{H_2S}$  and the experimental  $P_{H_2S}$  values was established. A "hill-climber" optimisation routine NE LM by Nelder and Mead (1965) was linked to the DIFSUB routine, and the values of the constants were changed until a convergence criterion for the sum of squares had been satisfied. As an example table G.1 summarises experimental and calculated  $P_{H_2S}$  values at discrete time intervals for three experiments using VMWBM sphalerite leaching at three different temperatures. Very good fits are observed.

Initial rates in terms of the zinc ion concentration were determined in two ways as follows :-

$$(r_o)_{exp} = \left( \frac{d P_{H_2S}}{d t} \right)_{o,exp} \cdot (C_D)_{exp} \dots\dots\dots G. 4$$

and  $(r_o)_{fit} = \left( \frac{d P_{H_2S}}{d t} \right)_{o,fit} \cdot (C_D)_{calc} \dots\dots\dots G. 5$

where  $\left( \frac{d P_{H_2S}}{d t} \right)_{o,exp} =$  measured experimental initial rate of  $P_{H_2S}$  increase;

$$\left( \frac{d P_{H_2S}}{d t} \right)_{o,fit} = \frac{a}{b} \text{ (as defined by equation G. 2)} \dots\dots\dots G. 6$$

$$(C_D)_{exp} = \frac{P_{H_2S}}{[Zn^{2+}]} \text{ (with the } P_{H_2S} \text{ and } [Zn^{2+}] \text{ being experimental values measured when the rate of increase in } P_{H_2S} \text{ is low).}$$

$$(C_D)_{calc} = \left( \frac{1}{K_D} \right)_{calc} + \frac{V_g}{RT} \dots\dots\dots G. 7$$

(with  $(K_D)_{calc}$  defined by equation E. 27).

Data on table	I 3	I 4	I 5
Temperature (K)	318,0	298,0	338,0
Fitted value of a	26,4	16,7	38,6
Fitted value of b	1,07	2,39	0,41
$(\frac{d P_{H_2S}}{d t})_{0,calc} = \frac{a}{b}$ (kPa)	24,6	6,98	95,1

Time (mins)	$(P_{H_2S})_{exp}$ (kPa)	$(P_{H_2S})_{calc}$ (kPa)	Time (mins)	$(P_{H_2S})_{exp}$ (kPa)	$(P_{H_2S})_{calc}$ (kPa)	Time (mins)	$(P_{H_2S})_{exp}$ (kPa)	$(P_{H_2S})_{calc}$ (kPa)
0,62	9,44	9,67	1,0	4,72	4,92	0,8	24,99	25,61
0,98	12,59	12,60	1,42	6,29	6,22	1,5	31,23	30,38
1,49	15,73	15,35	2,1	7,87	7,81	2,4	34,36	33,02
2,0	17,31	17,18	3,0	9,44	9,29	5,0	36,54	35,70
2,75	19,12	18,99	4,6	11,01	10,99	10,0	37,17	37,00
			5,0	11,41	11,30			

TABLE G. 1

COMPARISON OF EXPERIMENTAL  $P_{H_2S}$  RATE DATA WITH  $P_{H_2S}$  RATE DATA CALCULATED BY NUMERICALLY INTEGRATING EQUATION G. 1 (i.e.  $P_{H_2S} = \frac{at}{b+t}$ ) WHICH WAS FITTED TO THE EXPERIMENTAL DATA

In the case of the BDH sphalerite, equation G. 1 did not fit the shape of the leaching rate curves very well, and an alternative initial rate was defined as follows :-

$$r_{o \text{ exp fit}} = \left( \frac{d^{PH_2S}}{dt} \right)_{o, \text{exp}} \cdot (C_D)_{\text{fit}} \quad \text{..... G. 8}$$

The measured and fitted values of  $\left( \frac{d^{PH_2S}}{dt} \right)_o$ ,  $(C_D)_{\text{exp}}$  and  $(K_D)_{\text{calc}}$  are tabulated along with the case (i) experimental results in Appendix I.

## G. 2 PROCESSING OF CASE (ii) EXPERIMENTAL DATA

When sphalerite was leached under case (ii) conditions ( $[Fe^{3+}]_o : [H_2SO_4]_o \geq 1,8$ ), solution samples were taken, filtered and analysed for zinc by A. A. adsorption.

The initial rate of dissolution was determined by simply measuring the initial slope of the best fit curve drawn through the  $[Zn^{2+}]$  versus time data points plotted on linear graph paper. Since most of the case (ii) experiments were conducted using relatively coarse size fractions of WBM, ZCR or PR sphalerite, the rates of dissolution were sufficiently slow to justify this direct method of initial rate measurement.

Particularly in the case of the ZCR sphalerite, zinc initially dissolved very rapidly from what was probably ZnO present in the sphalerite. The ZnS itself dissolved far slower. The result was that the initial rate of dissolution of the sphalerite frequently did not pass through the origin at  $[Zn^{2+}] = 0,0$ . The concentration of the initial  $Zn^{2+}$  thus formed was

designated  $[Zn^{2+}]_0$ . All the measured initial rate and  $[Zn^{2+}]_0$  results are tabulated for the case (ii) data in Appendix J.

### G. 3 PROCESSING OF H<sub>2</sub>S OXIDATION DATA

When H<sub>2</sub>S was purged into the reactor, the  $P_{H_2S}$  and H<sub>2</sub>S concentration were measured to give the distribution coefficient  $K_D$  directly, i.e. -

$$(K_D)_{\text{exp}} = \frac{P_{H_2S}}{[H_2S]_l}$$

Upon injecting  $Fe^{3+}$ , oxidation of the H<sub>2</sub>S took place and the  $P_{H_2S}$  decreased with time. The initial rate of oxidation was determined by measuring the initial slope of the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time trace on the chart recorder output. The initial rate of reaction in terms of the H<sub>2</sub>S concentration was then calculated as follows :-

$$(r_0)_{\text{exp}} = \left( \frac{dP_{H_2S}}{dt} \right)_{0,\text{exp}} / (K_D)_{\text{exp}}$$

In many experiments the H<sub>2</sub>S was generated in-situ by the dissolving sphalerite and the  $Fe^{3+}$  was injected only when the rate of increase in  $P_{H_2S}$  due to dissolution was very low compared to the rate of decrease in  $P_{H_2S}$  due to oxidation of the H<sub>2</sub>S by the  $Fe^{3+}$ .

In this case, the initial rate of decrease in  $P_{H_2S}$  was measured as described above, but the initial rate in terms of the H<sub>2</sub>S concentration was calculated as follows :-

$$(r_o)_{\text{calc}} = \left( \frac{d P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{dt} \right)_{o,\text{exp}} / (K_D)_{\text{calc}}$$

where  $(K_D)_{\text{calc}}$  was calculated using equation E. 27.

The  $\left( \frac{d P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}}{dt} \right)_{o,\text{exp}}$ ,  $(P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}})_o$ ,  $(K_D)_{\text{calc}}$  and (where measured) the  $[\text{H}_2\text{S}]_o$  values used are presented with the oxidation rate data results in the tables in Appendix K.

#### G. 4 PROCESSING OF CASE (iii) EXPERIMENTAL DATA

When sphalerite was leached under case (iii) conditions ( $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_o : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_o \leq 0,1$ ), the zinc ion concentration and the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  partial pressure was measured with time. This data has been dealt with qualitatively in this thesis. Hence in chapter 5 the experimental  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$  versus time and  $P_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  versus time rate curves are plotted and discussed qualitatively.

A P P E N D I X HPRESENTATION OF SELECTED CASE (i)  
( $[\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 = 0,0$ ) RAW DATA IN GRAPHICAL FORM

All the case (i) leaching data presented in tabular form in Appendix I was interpreted in chapter 3 in terms of models derived from proposed mechanisms.

In this section, selected case (i) data is presented graphically in order to demonstrate specific aspects of the work.

H. 1 EFFECT OF AGITATION RATE ON THE RATE OF SPHALERITE DISSOLUTION

Figures H. 1 a to H. 1 c plot the measured  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  partial pressure versus time rate curves at different stirrer speeds for the VMWBM, VMPR and BDH sphalerites. Although experimentally a continuous  $\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  versus time curve was obtained using a chart recorder, the  $\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  values at discrete time intervals were noted in order to present the results in tabular form in Appendix I. These discrete  $\text{P}_{\text{H}_2\text{S}}$  versus time data are plotted on figures H. 1 a to H. 1 c, as the continuous curves tend to superimpose on one another (making plotting and comparison difficult).



(facing Figure H.1)

legend

Fig H.1a

Fig H.1b

Fig H.1c

	Data on table	Stirrer (rpm)	$M_o$ (kg)	$[H_2SO_4]_o$ (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	Temp. (K)
x	I3	800,0	0,02	1,0	318,0
o	I6	1150,0	0,02	1,0	318,0
Δ	I2	1000,0	0,01	1,0	318,0
+	I7	1500,0	0,01	1,0	318,0
o	I28	1000,0	0,02	1,0	318,0
x	I31	1500,0	0,02	1,0	318,0
o	I45	400,0	0,004	1,04	298,0
x	I47	700,0	0,004	1,04	298,0
+	I48	1000,0	0,004	1,04	298,0



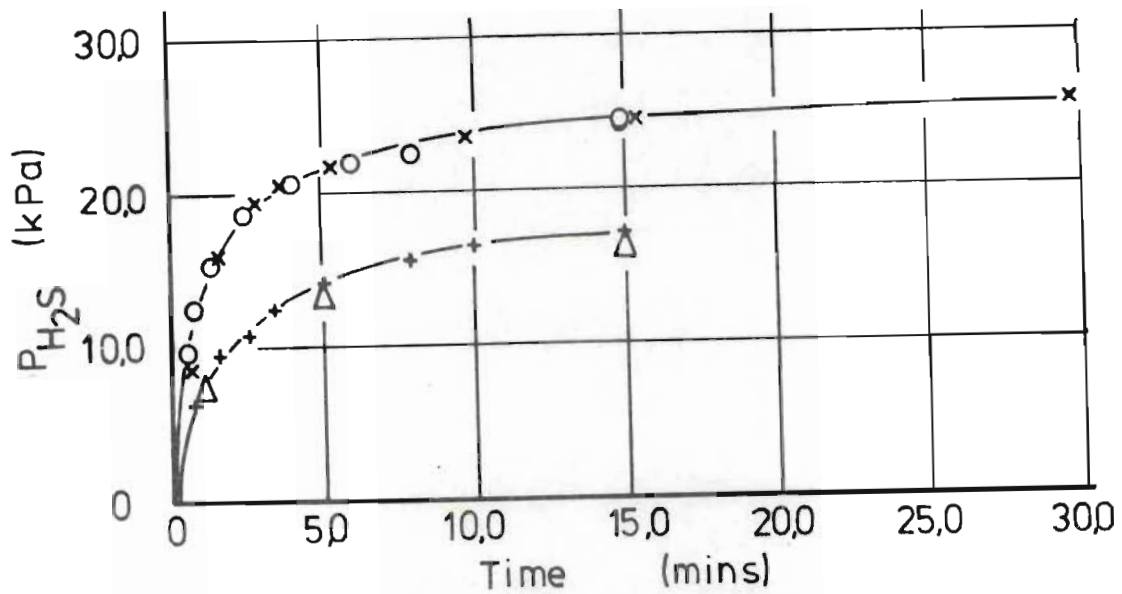


Figure H.1a Comparison of  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves at different stirrer speeds for VMWBM sphalerite.

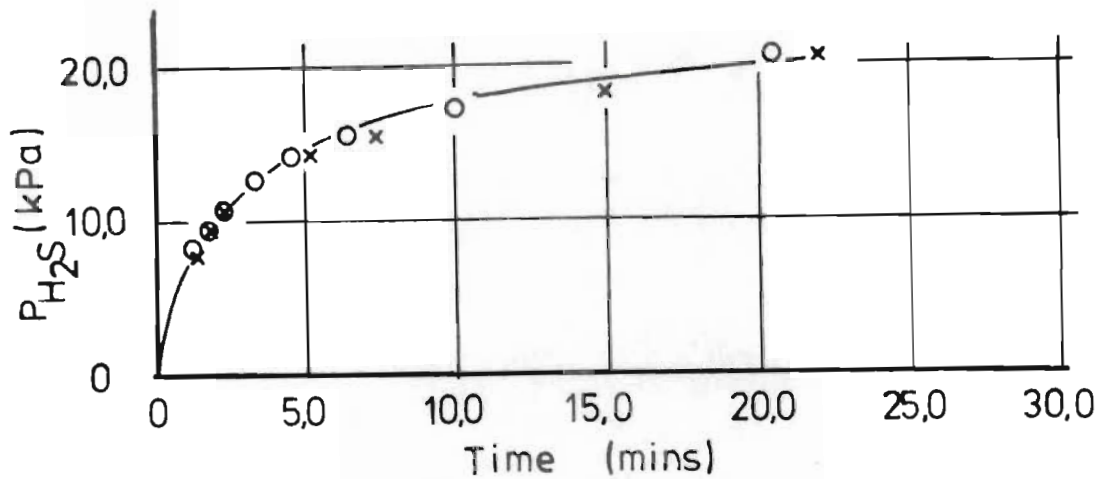


Figure H.1b Comparison of  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves at different stirrer speeds for VMPR sphalerite.

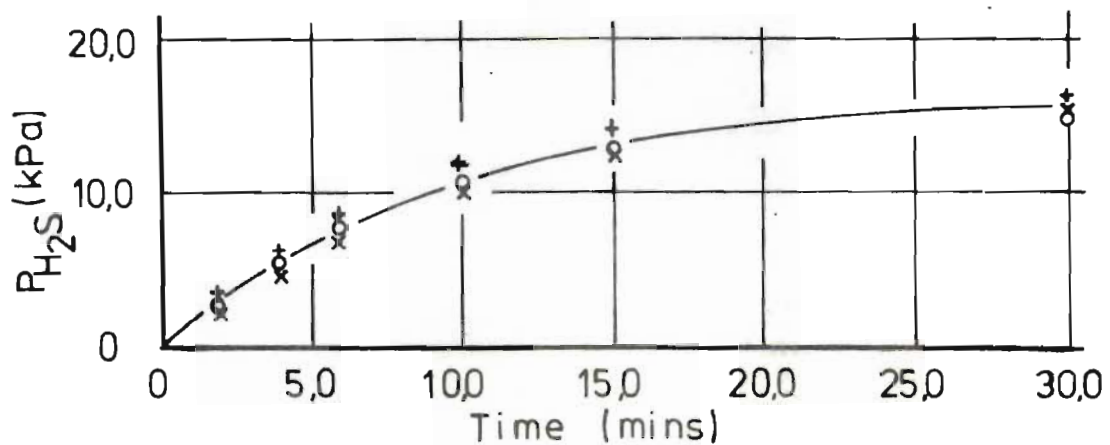


Figure H.1c Comparison of  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves at different stirrer speeds for BDH sphalerite.

No significant effect of agitation on the dissolution rate is observed, which suggests that film diffusional phenomena do not constitute the rate limiting step. This observation confirms the results discussed in section 3.2.6 (in which dissolution rate curves for experiments conducted at different temperatures were processed), which showed that the apparent activation energy of the rate limiting step for the various sphalerites were far greater than one would expect had a diffusion phenomena been rate limiting.

H. 2 EFFECT OF INITIAL SPHALERITE MASS  $M_0$   
ON THE DISSOLUTION RATE

Figures H.2 a and H.2 b plot the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves for different initial masses of VMWBM and BDH sphalerites. Similar plots for the VMZCR and VMPR sphalerites may be constructed from the data in Appendix I.

From figure H.2 a it would appear as though the  $P_{H_2S}$  approaches significantly differently equilibrium values. However, in chapter 4 it was demonstrated that the concentration of the active sphalerite sites  $\phi(X)$  decreases very rapidly as described by equation 4.9 (where  $\psi_4(X) = \frac{\phi(X)}{\phi_0}$ ).

Thus when 0,02 kg sphalerite is present (curve a on figure H.2 a), more active sphalerite is available to permit the  $P_{H_2S}$  value to approach the thermodynamic equilibrium faster, than if only 0,01 or 0,005 kg sphalerite is present. It is proposed that if leaching were permitted to proceed

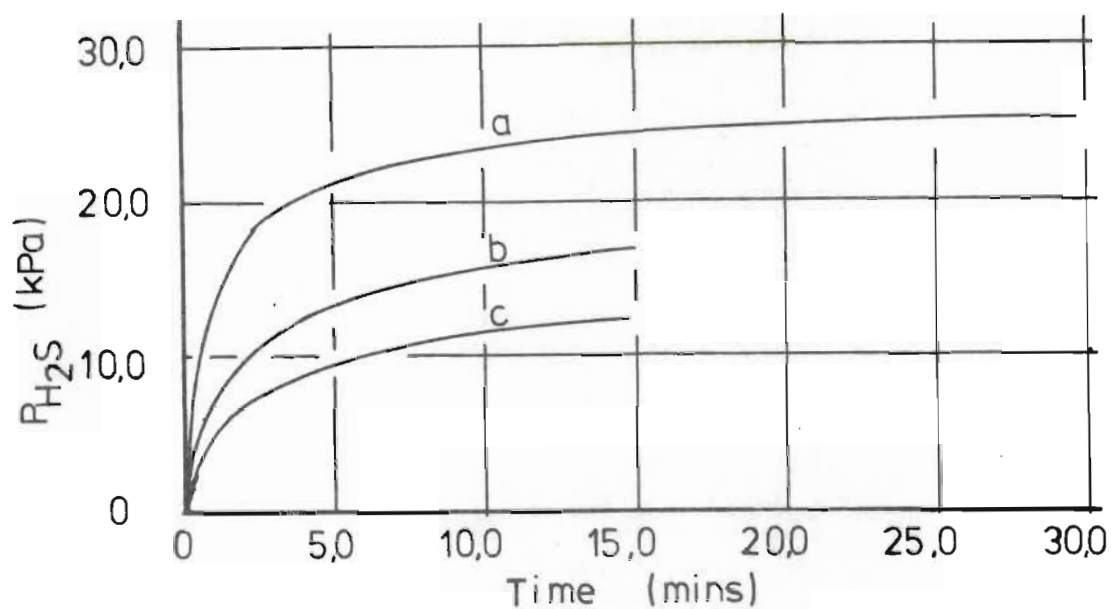


Figure H.2a Plot demonstrating the effect of  $M_0$  on the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves for VMWBM sphalerite.

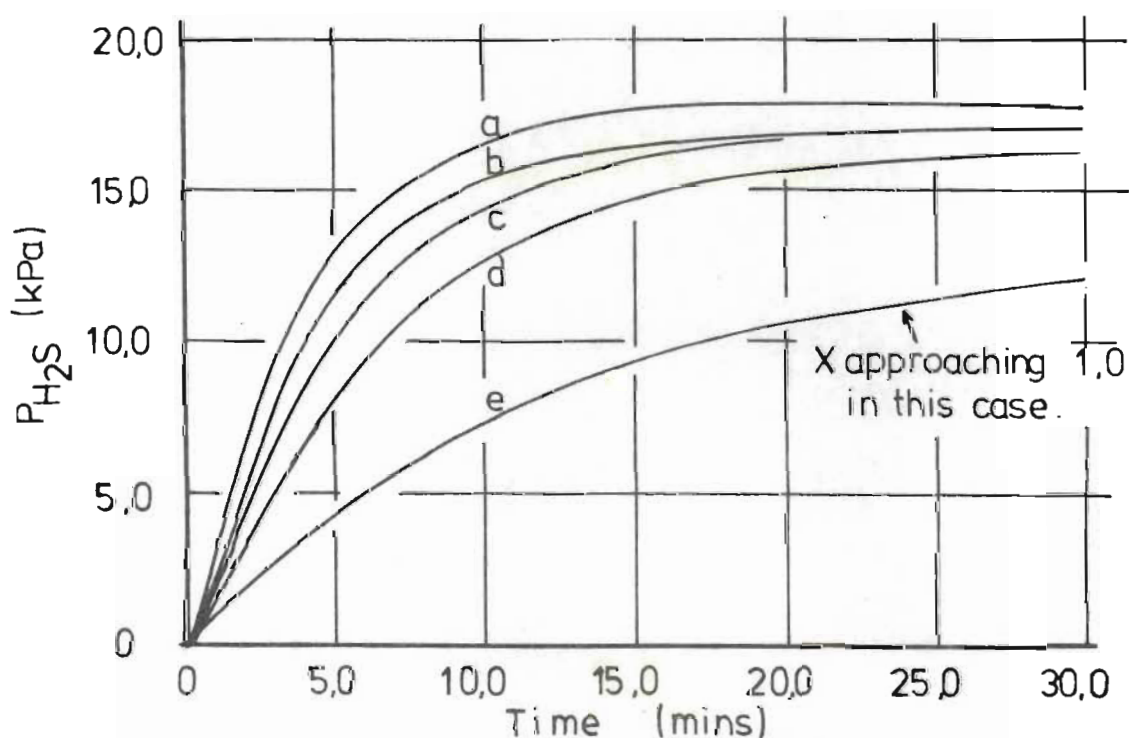


Figure H.2b Plot demonstrating the effect of  $M_0$  on the  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time rate curves for BDH sphalerite.

long enough, the three  $P_{H_2S}$  versus time curves would coincide.

In the case of the BDH sphalerite (figure H.2b) it was shown in chapter 4 that the active site concentration  $\phi(X)$  decreases according to the shrinking core model (equation 4.2). Equation 4.2 describes a much slower decrease in  $\phi(X)$  with  $X$  than does equation 4.9 (for the VMWBM sphalerite). Thus the effect of  $M_0$  on the rate of approach of the  $P_{H_2S}$  to thermodynamic equilibria values for the BDH sphalerite is less than is the case for the VMWBM sphalerite.

A P P E N D I X ITABULATED EXPERIMENTAL RESULTSFOR LEACHING UNDER CASE (i) CONDITIONS

$$\underline{([Fe^{3+}]_0 : [H_2SO_4]_0 = 0,0)}$$

The procedure adopted for processing case (i) experimental leaching results is described in section G. 1.

TABLE I 1

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 114  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMWBM		
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00		
INITIAL MASS (KG)	= 0.0050		
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.0		
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 1.0000		
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 3272.0		
COEXP (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)	= .7248E-03		
KOEXP (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1689E 04		
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1654E 04		
TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sub>2</sub> + (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
0.50	3.12	N.D.	N.D.
1.00	4.69	N.D.	N.D.
1.62	6.25	N.D.	N.D.
2.49	7.81	N.D.	N.D.
4.10	9.37	N.D.	N.D.
7.20	10.93	N.D.	N.D.
14.80	12.03	.872E-02	.725E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 7.68
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 7.77
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 12.03
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 13.40

TABLE I 3

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 100  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMWBM		
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00		
INITIAL MASS (KG)	= 0.0200		
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0		
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 1.0000		
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 3272.0		
COEXP (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)	= .7200E-03		
KOEXP (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1703E 04		
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1654E 04		
TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sub>2</sub> + (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
0.62	9.44	N.D.	N.D.
0.98	12.59	N.D.	N.D.
1.49	15.73	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	17.31	N.D.	N.D.
2.75	19.12	.148E-01	.776E-03
3.80	20.45	N.D.	N.D.
5.40	21.87	.165E-01	.755E-03
9.75	23.78	.173E-01	.727E-03
15.20	24.86	.180E-01	.723E-03
29.80	25.35	.190E-01	.748E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 19.01
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 24.60
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 25.35
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 26.40

TABLE I 5

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 108  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMWBM		
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00		
INITIAL MASS (KG)	= 0.0200		
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0		
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 1.0000		
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 3272.0		
COEXP (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)	= .5700E-03		
KOEXP (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .2247E 04		
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .2174E 04		
TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sub>2</sub> + (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
0.80	24.99	N.D.	N.D.
1.50	31.23	N.D.	N.D.
2.40	34.36	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	36.54	.194E-01	.532E-03
10.00	37.17	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	37.42	N.D.	N.D.
22.00	37.48	.214E-01	.571E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 44.35
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 95.10
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 37.48
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 38.60

TABLE I 2

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 176  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMWBM		
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00		
INITIAL MASS (KG)	= 0.0100		
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.0		
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 1.0000		
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 3272.0		
COEXP (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)	= .7196E-03		
KOEXP (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1704E 04		
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1654E 04		
TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sub>2</sub> + (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
1.00	7.11	.670E-02	.943E-03
5.00	13.44	.106E-01	.790E-03
15.00	16.33	.119E-01	.728E-03
30.00	17.86	.129E-01	.720E-03
45.00	18.48	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 10.37
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 11.30
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 18.48
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 18.50

TABLE I 4

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 109  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMWBM		
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 298.00		
INITIAL MASS (KG)	= 0.0200		
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0		
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 1.0000		
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 3272.0		
COEXP (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)	= .9651E-03		
KOEXP (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1214E 04		
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1225E 04		
TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sub>2</sub> + (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
1.00	4.72	.766E-02	.163E-02
1.42	6.29	N.D.	N.D.
2.10	7.87	N.D.	N.D.
3.00	9.44	N.D.	N.D.
4.60	11.01	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	11.41	.110E-01	.965E-03
7.80	12.57	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	13.53	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	14.88	N.D.	N.D.
38.00	15.86	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 5.03
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 6.98
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 16.36
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 16.70

TABLE I 6

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 110  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMWBM		
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00		
INITIAL MASS (KG)	= 0.0200		
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1150.0		
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 1.0000		
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 3272.0		
COEXP (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)	= .7200E-03		
KOEXP (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1703E 04		
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	= .1654E 04		
TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sub>2</sub> + (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
0.50	9.44	N.D.	N.D.
0.80	12.59	N.D.	N.D.
1.30	15.73	N.D.	N.D.
2.44	18.88	N.D.	N.D.
3.00	20.00	.148E-01	.738E-03
4.00	20.46	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	22.03	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	22.81	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	24.71	.177E-01	.718E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 30.21
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>0</sub> (KPA/MIN)	= 30.60
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 24.86
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	= 25.70



TABLE I 7  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 115  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMWBM
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1400.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.6701E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1861E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
0.70	6.25	N.D.	N.D.
1.60	9.37	N.D.	N.D.
2.35	10.93	N.D.	N.D.
3.40	12.49	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	14.06	N.D.	N.D.
7.90	15.62	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	16.30	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	17.05	N.D.	N.D.
22.00	17.59	.119E-01	.674E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 17.65  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 12.60  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 17.59  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 18.50

TABLE I 9  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 175  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMWBM
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	2.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.6926E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1786E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1824E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	13.13	.135E-01	.103E-02
2.00	18.44	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	24.12	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	27.69	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	30.34	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	31.69	.220E-01	.693E-03
45.00	33.04	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 18.19  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 20.80  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 33.04  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 32.90

TABLE I 11  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 186  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMWBM+ZNSO4 at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
INITIAL ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0251
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.7613E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1591E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.00	4.80	.299E-01
5.00	8.99	N.D.
10.00	10.47	.336E-01
20.00	11.72	N.D.
30.00	12.39	.345E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 7.30  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 7.60  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 12.39  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 12.50

TABLE I 8  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 172  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMWBM
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.5000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.7151E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1717E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1569E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	3.75	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	6.43	.528E-02	.820E-03
5.00	8.55	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	9.70	.721E-02	.743E-03
20.00	10.51	N.D.	N.D.
32.00	11.05	.791E-02	.715E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 6.91  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 5.99  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 11.05  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 11.80

TABLE I 10  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 185  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMWBM+ZNSO4 at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
INITIAL ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0150
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.7334E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1665E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.00	4.90	N.D.
2.00	7.01	.153E-01
7.00	10.37	.223E-01
15.00	12.14	.233E-01
30.00	13.64	N.D.
40.00	13.96	.252E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 7.20  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 7.19  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 13.96  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 14.10

TABLE I 12  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 187  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMWBM+ZNSO4 at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
INITIAL ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0251
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.0
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.7528E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.00	3.36	N.D.
2.30	4.80	.545E-01
3.00	5.09	N.D.
5.00	5.88	N.D.
10.50	6.97	.590E-01
20.00	7.80	N.D.
30.00	8.45	N.D.
40.00	8.87	.603E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 4.99  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 4.84  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 8.87  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 8.63



TABLE I 13  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 195  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VHWHM+H2S at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.5000
INITIAL PH2S (KPA)	=	81.17
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.7429E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1639E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1569E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	7.87	N.D.
0.50	10.37	N.D.
1.00	11.93	.369E-02
2.00	13.19	N.D.
5.00	14.88	.558E-02
10.00	16.13	N.D.
22.00	17.09	.685E-02
30.00	17.09	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	5.24
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	8.40
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	9.22
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	16.80

Note: Measured [H2S]0 = 5.0 x 10<sup>-3</sup> kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>

TABLE I 15  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 194  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VHWHM+H2S at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	2.0000
INITIAL PH2S (KPA)	=	226.84
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.7022E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1756E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1824E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	22.01	N.D.
0.50	29.53	N.D.
1.00	34.55	.108E-01
2.00	38.34	N.D.
5.00	42.85	N.D.
9.00	44.94	.158E-01
20.00	46.71	.174E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	21.81
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	20.60
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	21.81
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	48.51

Note: Measured [H2S]0 = 20.0 x 10<sup>-3</sup> kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>

TABLE I 17  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 167  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VH2CR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.8166E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1462E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	5.38	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	7.80	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	11.91	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	14.88	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	17.71	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	18.82	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	19.67	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	20.24	.165E-01	.817E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	8.37
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	6.60
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	20.24
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	20.40

TABLE I 14  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 193  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VHWHM+H2S at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
INITIAL PH2S (KPA)	=	174.23
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	3272.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.7630E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1586E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	16.90	N.D.
0.50	21.13	N.D.
1.00	24.78	.790E-02
5.00	29.10	N.D.
11.00	30.92	.109E-01
20.00	31.73	N.D.
30.00	32.07	.116E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	12.04
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	11.10
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	15.17
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	33.40

Note: Measured [H2S]0 = 11.9 x 10<sup>-3</sup> kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>

TABLE I 16  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 168  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VH2CR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0050
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.7114E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1728E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	3.63	N.D.	N.D.
3.00	7.01	.520E-02	.742E-03
10.00	11.18	.780E-02	.698E-03
30.00	14.88	.103E-01	.695E-03
45.00	16.19	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	17.04	.121E-01	.711E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	4.61
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	4.32
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	17.03
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	17.00

TABLE I 18  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 102  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VH2CR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0200
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	800.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.7753E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1556E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.10	12.59	N.D.	N.D.
1.34	14.16	N.D.	N.D.
1.75	16.47	.129E-01	.785E-03
2.88	18.88	N.D.	N.D.
4.10	20.46	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	21.00	.161E-01	.769E-03
10.00	21.71	.168E-01	.775E-03
15.00	21.09	N.D.	N.D.
25.00	19.48	N.D.	N.D.
35.00	18.41	.212E-01	.115E-02
45.00	17.79	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	17.53
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	39.20
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	21.71
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	20.70

TABLE I 19  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 137  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0200
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.7700E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1569E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.20	12.49	N.D.	N.D.
1.85	15.62	N.D.	N.D.
2.90	18.74	N.D.	N.D.
3.20	20.15	.155E-01	.771E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	12.34
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	17.10
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	25.77
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	31.90

TABLE I 20  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 139  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0200
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.1057E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1092E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1225E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.30	4.72	N.D.	N.D.
2.10	6.29	N.D.	N.D.
2.40	6.87	.750E-02	.109E-02
3.20	7.87	N.D.	N.D.
4.70	9.44	N.D.	N.D.
7.30	11.01	N.D.	N.D.
11.45	12.59	N.D.	N.D.
19.50	14.16	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	15.30	N.D.	N.D.
39.60	15.81	.167E-01	.106E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	4.41
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	4.81
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	15.42
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	16.80

TABLE I 21  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 106  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	338.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0200
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	800.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.6747E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1818E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.2174E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
0.50	20.80	N.D.	N.D.
1.00	29.18	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	35.26	.203E-01	.575E-03
3.00	36.69	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	38.43	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	39.46	.240E-01	.609E-03
10.00	39.14	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	38.33	N.D.	N.D.
25.00	38.21	.258E-01	.675E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	54.63
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	93.90
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	39.46
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	40.80

TABLE I 22  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 170  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.5000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.6626E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1887E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1569E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	3.84	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	6.34	.483E-02	.763E-03
5.00	9.03	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	11.43	.780E-02	.683E-03
35.00	12.93	.857E-02	.663E-03
39.00	13.15	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	6.34
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	5.41
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	13.15
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	13.80

TABLE I 23  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 174  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	2.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.6796E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1828E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1824E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	11.14	N.D.	N.D.
2.60	19.21	.128E-01	.666E-03
5.00	24.40	N.D.	N.D.
11.70	31.77	.208E-01	.653E-03
20.00	35.34	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	38.10	.256E-01	.671E-03
45.00	40.53	.275E-01	.680E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	14.79
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	14.50
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	40.53
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	40.70

TABLE I 24  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 204  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMZCR+ZNS04 att.=01
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
INITIAL ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0143
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2708.0
CDEXP (KG-MUL/M3 KPA)	=	.5715E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.2279E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.00	4.80	N.D.
2.80	8.45	.199E-01
5.00	10.66	N.D.
10.00	13.44	.214E-01
20.00	15.94	N.D.
30.00	17.48	.243E-01
32.00	17.67	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	2.98
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	5.97
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	17.67
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	18.50

TABLE I 25

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 197  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMZCR(H2S att=0)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRrer SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
INITIAL PH2S (KPA) = 132.65  
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 2708.0  
COEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .7429E-03  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1639E 04  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

Note: Measured H<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> = 10.96 x 10<sup>-3</sup> kg-mol /m<sup>3</sup>

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	12.87	N.D.
0.50	17.13	N.D.
1.00	19.59	N.D.
2.00	22.47	.746E-02
5.00	26.12	N.D.
10.00	28.52	.116E-01
20.00	29.42	N.D.
30.00	30.00	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 8.02  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 17.13  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 27

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 132  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMHR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRrer SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 2630.0  
COEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .7860E-03  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1531E 04  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	6.25	N.D.	N.D.
2.50	7.34	.106E-01	.144E-02
4.20	9.37	N.D.	N.D.
5.80	10.93	N.D.	N.D.
8.40	12.49	N.D.	N.D.
10.70	13.43	.106E-01	.786E-03
12.50	14.06	N.D.	N.D.
16.80	15.62	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	17.33	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	19.62	N.D.	N.D.
90.00	20.61	N.D.	N.D.
120.00	22.02	N.D.	N.D.
180.00	25.24	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 3.75  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 39.70  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 17.18  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 21.90

TABLE I 29

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 136  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMHR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 298.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0200  
STIRrer SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 2630.0  
COEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .1470E-02  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .7520E 03  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1225E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	1.56	N.D.	N.D.
1.70	2.50	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	4.43	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	5.78	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	7.03	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	7.87	N.D.	N.D.
40.50	8.90	.132E-01	.148E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 1.66  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 1.89  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 8.59  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 9.06

TABLE I 26

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 169  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMHR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0050  
STIRrer SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 2630.0  
COEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .7100E-03  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1732E 04  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	1.73	2.42	.0535	.140E-02
5.00	3.84	ND	ND	N.D.
10.00	6.24	5.09	0.726	.815E-03
20.00	9.27	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	11.23	8.11	1.224	.722E-03
61.00	14.40	9.99	1.644	.694E-03
90.00	16.08	11.50	N.D.	.712E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.86  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.94  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 16.08  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 19.10

TABLE I 28

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 133  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMHR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0200  
STIRrer SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 2630.0  
COEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .9000E-03  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1303E 04  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.25	8.12	.800E-02	.985E-03
1.80	9.37	N.D.	N.D.
2.23	10.93	N.D.	N.D.
3.30	12.49	N.D.	N.D.
4.50	14.06	N.D.	N.D.
6.45	15.62	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	17.18	N.D.	N.D.
21.00	20.30	.183E-01	.900E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 9.68  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 9.71  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 18.58  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 21.30

TABLE I 30

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 135  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMHR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 338.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0200  
STIRrer SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 2630.0  
COEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .5670E-03  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .2262E 04  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .2174E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
0.50	12.49	N.D.	N.D.
0.72	15.62	N.D.	N.D.
1.20	18.74	N.D.	N.D.
1.80	21.86	N.D.	N.D.
2.70	24.99	N.D.	N.D.
4.50	28.11	N.D.	N.D.
9.60	31.23	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	31.86	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 25.30  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 37.80  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 32.17  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 33.70



TABLE I 31  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 134  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0200
STIRKER SPEED (RPM)	=	1500.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2630.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.9034E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1297E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
0.80	6.25	N.D.	N.D.
1.20	7.81	.800E-02	.102E-02
1.70	9.37	N.D.	N.D.
2.40	10.93	N.D.	N.D.
3.55	12.49	N.D.	N.D.
5.20	14.06	N.D.	N.D.
7.45	15.62	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	18.58	N.D.	N.D.
22.00	20.15	.182E-01	.903E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 13.18  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 10.50  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 20.61  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 20.20

TABLE I 33  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 173  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRKER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	2.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2630.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.6842E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1813E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1824E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	[Zn2+] (Fe)TOT. (kg-mol/m3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	3.75	N.D.	N.D.
3.00	9.76	8.64	1.40
5.00	13.68	N.D.	N.D.
13.00	22.18	15.57	2.33
30.00	30.34	20.76	3.06
45.00	34.22	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 3.75  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 41.90  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 36.59  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 4.04

TABLE I 35  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 196  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMPR+H2S at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRKER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
INITIAL PH2S (KPA)	=	122.75
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2630.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.7930E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1514E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

Note: Measured [H2S] = 17.77 x 10<sup>-3</sup> kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	11.91	N.D.
0.50	12.96	N.D.
1.00	13.68	N.D.
2.00	14.98	.361E-02
5.00	17.48	N.D.
10.60	20.17	.737E-02
20.00	22.85	N.D.
30.00	24.78	N.D.
40.00	25.93	N.D.
46.00	26.31	.114E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 1.35  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 14.40  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 32  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 171  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRKER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.5000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2630.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.8966E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1309E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1569E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	1.34	.288E-02	.214E-02
5.00	2.69	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	4.80	.543E-02	.113E-02
30.00	8.41	.754E-02	.897E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.77  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.72  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 8.41  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 11.80

TABLE I 34  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 203  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	VMPR+ZNS04 at t=0
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRKER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
INITIAL ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0142
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	2630.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.0
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.7528E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.00	0.65	N.D.
2.00	1.23	N.D.
3.00	1.83	N.D.
4.80	2.48	.178E-01
10.00	4.30	N.D.
15.50	5.84	.191E-01
20.00	6.72	N.D.
30.00	8.72	.209E-01
40.00	10.10	N.D.
50.00	11.52	N.D.
60.00	12.18	.222E-01
64.00	12.52	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.65  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.64  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 6.32  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 16.80

TABLE I 36  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 199  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0040
STIRKER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.7216E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1698E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	5.40	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	11.00	.875E-02	.795E-03
5.00	18.72	N.D.	N.D.
10.20	22.58	.164E-01	.725E-03
20.40	24.21	.172E-01	.709E-03
30.00	25.48	N.D.	N.D.
40.00	25.90	.179E-01	.690E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 5.50  
 FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
 MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 25.90  
 FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 37

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 141  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.7732E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1561E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	15.05	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	23.74	N.D.	N.D.
3.15	27.01	.217E-01	.804E-03
4.00	27.95	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	28.36	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	28.49	N.D.	N.D.
16.20	28.77	.228E-01	.792E-03
20.00	28.77	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	15.15
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	28.89
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 38

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 140  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0100
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.1031E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1124E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1225E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	3.10	N.D.	N.D.
1.80	5.93	.737E-02	.124E-02
5.00	13.27	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	16.87	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	17.55	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	17.56	N.D.	N.D.
38.70	17.56	.192E-01	.110E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	3.12
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	17.49
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 39

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 142  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	338.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0050
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.5670E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.2262E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.2174E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
0.85	28.11	N.D.	N.D.
1.10	31.23	N.D.	N.D.
1.44	34.36	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	37.65	.205E-01	.545E-03
2.65	39.04	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	40.23	N.D.	N.D.
5.60	40.91	.245E-01	.598E-03
10.00	41.22	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	36.44
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	40.60
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 40

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 200  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0040
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.5000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.8649E-03
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1365E 04
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1569E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	2.69	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	5.57	.456E-02	.819E-03
5.00	8.35	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	9.89	.839E-02	.848E-03
15.00	10.12	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	10.27	.888E-02	.865E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	2.91
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	10.27
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 41

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 201  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0040
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	2.0204
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.6392E 00
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1000E 01
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1827E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	15.44	N.D.	N.D.
2.10	28.57	.189E-01	.663E-03
3.00	34.55	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	40.92	N.D.	N.D.
9.20	45.09	.267E-01	.592E-03
15.00	45.75	.285E-01	.622E-03
20.00	45.75	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	15.44
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	45.75
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 42

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 202  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH+ZnSO4 att=01
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0040
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0000
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04
Initial Zn <sup>2+</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	=	.1427E-01

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
1.00	2.98	N.D.	N.D.
2.00	5.86	.191E-01	.326E-02
3.00	8.35	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	11.52	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	15.17	.229E-01	.151E-02
20.00	16.98	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	17.86	.243E-01	.136E-02
38.00	18.25	N.D.	N.D.
40.00	1.73	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	2.11	N.D.	N.D.
53.00	2.21	.243E 02	.110E 02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	5.89
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	18.25
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 43

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 198  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH+H2S att=0)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
INITIAL PH2S (KPA) = 118.80  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 7200.0  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04  
Note: Measured  $H_2S_0_4 = 10.85 \times 10^{-3}$  kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
0.00	11.52	N.D.	N.D.
0.50	14.40	N.D.	N.D.
1.40	20.93	.857E-02	.409E-03
3.00	28.04	N.D.	N.D.
5.00	31.59	N.D.	N.D.
9.00	33.80	.160E-01	.474E-03
20.00	36.30	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	37.36	N.D.	N.D.
41.50	38.70	.170E-01	.439E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 7.01  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 7.78  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 44

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 153  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 298.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0400  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 7200.0  
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .1165E-02  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .9770E 03  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	2.81	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	5.42	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	7.62	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	9.33	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	10.75	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	12.84	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	14.83	N.D.	N.D.
40.00	15.05	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	15.02	.194E-01	.129E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 1.39  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 15.08  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 45

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 154  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 298.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0400  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 7200.0  
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .1165E-02  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .9770E 03  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	3.30	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	6.40	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	9.09	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	11.13	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	12.53	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	14.70	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	16.30	N.D.	N.D.
40.00	16.40	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	16.84	.189E-01	.112E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 1.64  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 16.78  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 46

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 155  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 298.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 400.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0400  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 7200.0  
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .1165E-02  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .9770E 03  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	2.29	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	4.66	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	6.80	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	8.57	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	10.09	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	12.57	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	15.26	N.D.	N.D.
40.00	15.73	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	16.01	.188E-01	.117E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 1.18  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 16.18  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.



TABLE I 47

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 156  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0040
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	700.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0400
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.1165E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.9770E 03
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	3.05	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	6.04	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	8.62	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	10.61	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	12.03	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	14.23	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	15.81	N.D.	N.D.
40.00	16.13	N.D.	N.D.
55.00	16.29	.188E-01	.115E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	1.55
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	16.48
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 49

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 158  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0080
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0400
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.1165E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.9770E 03
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	5.02	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	9.42	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	12.22	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	13.76	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	14.47	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	14.78	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	14.78	.190E-01	.129E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	2.52
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	14.78
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 51

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 160  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0060
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0400
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.1165E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.9770E 03
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	4.51	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	8.53	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	11.44	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	13.30	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	14.33	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	15.64	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	16.10	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	16.18	.193E-01	.119E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	2.28
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	16.28
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 48

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 157  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0040
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	700.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0400
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.1165E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.9770E 03
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	3.00	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	6.01	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	8.44	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	10.51	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	11.82	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	13.93	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	15.66	N.D.	N.D.
40.00	16.04	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	16.29	.190E-01	.116E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	1.49
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	16.27
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 50

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 159  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0080
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0400
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.1165E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.9770E 03
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	5.44	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	9.92	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	12.88	N.D.	N.D.
8.00	14.49	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	15.39	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	16.23	N.D.	N.D.
20.00	16.62	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	16.83	.191E-01	.113E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	2.46
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	16.88
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 52

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 161  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	298.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0020
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.0400
SPEC.SURFACE AREA (M2/KG)	=	7200.0
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)	=	.1165E-02
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.9770E 03
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	.1232E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	1.74	N.D.	N.D.
4.00	3.51	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	7.52	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	9.42	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	12.27	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	13.05	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	13.56	N.D.	N.D.
90.00	13.85	.167E-01	.120E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	0.86
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	13.88
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA)	=	N.D.



TABLE I 53

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 162  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 298.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.5130  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 7200.0  
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .1165E-02  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .9770E 03  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1142E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	1.30	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	3.69	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	5.33	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	6.28	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	6.96	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	6.96	.926E-02	.133E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.66  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 6.99  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 54

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 163  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 298.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.2500  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 7200.0  
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .1145E-02  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .9770E 03  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1098E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	1.53	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	3.99	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	5.44	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	6.31	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	6.76	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	6.73	.494E-02	.734E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.39  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 3.41  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 55

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 164  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 298.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.9500  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 7200.0  
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .1165E-02  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .9770E 03  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1387E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
2.00	6.28	N.D.	N.D.
6.00	16.36	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	21.98	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	25.77	N.D.	N.D.
30.00	30.16	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	31.48	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	31.91	N.D.	N.D.
90.00	31.98	.333E-01	.104E-02

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 3.14  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 32.06  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 56

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 149  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = -125+106 WBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0450  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 60.0  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	[Zn2+] (KG-MOL/M3)	[Fe]TOT (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
4.00	0.50	0.489	0.43	.973E-03
10.00	1.02	0.489	0.30	.489E-03
60.00	2.74	2.754	N.D.	.100E-02
90.00	4.28	3.626	N.D.	.848E-03
120.00	4.75	4.33	0.358	.912E-03
150.00	5.79	4.56	0.661	.788E-03
180.00	5.95	5.247	0.717	.883E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.14  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 5.95  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 57

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 55  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = -90+75 WBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0500  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 80.0

KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
6.00	3.65	.198E-02	.544E-03
15.00	5.61	.267E-02	.476E-03
30.00	8.30	.466E-02	.562E-03
60.00	10.49	.632E-02	.603E-03
90.00	10.85	.738E-02	.680E-03
100.00	11.18	.792E-02	.708E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.86  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 11.18  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 58

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 56  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = -90+75 WBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0500  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 80.0

KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
6.00	2.80	.198E-02	.709E-03
20.00	4.56	.357E-02	.782E-03
60.00	8.32	.559E-02	.672E-03
90.00	9.19	.651E-02	.709E-03
112.00	9.36	.746E-02	.796E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 0.75  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = N.D.  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 9.19  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = N.D.

TABLE I 59

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 189  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	WRM-75+63
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0500
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	=	0.0
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
3.00	1.69	.168E-02	.996E-03
6.00	2.59	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	4.51	.329E-02	.729E-03
30.00	6.88	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	8.55	.569E-02	.666E-03
60.00	9.89	N.D.	N.D.
80.00	10.85	.711E-02	.655E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	0.59
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	10.85
FITTED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 61

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 152  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	75+53 WBM
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0450
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	=	80.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] × 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
2.00	0.47	0.918	0.40	.195E-02
10.00	2.36	1.606	0.40	.682E-03
30.00	4.56	3.381	0.40	.741E-03
55.00	6.69	4.406	0.40	.659E-03
130.00	7.87	6.578	0.41	.836E-03
150.00	8.81	8.108	0.54	.755E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	0.23
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	0.00
FITTED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 63

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 151  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	75+106 ZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0450
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	=	130.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] × 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
2.00	0.01	0.512	0.55	.786E-01
20.00	0.39	1.071	0.88	N.D.
40.00	0.48	1.085	0.61	.225E-02
60.00	1.19	1.973	0.68	.166E-02
135.00	4.81	5.278	0.84	.110E-02
180.00	6.79	6.884	1.47	.101E-02

TABLE I 60

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 192  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	W-75+63
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0500
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	100.0
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	=	0.0
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	=	.1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
3.00	2.40	.153E-02	.637E-03
6.00	3.65	N.D.	N.D.
10.00	4.90	N.D.	N.D.
15.00	5.99	.395E-02	.659E-03
30.00	8.16	.528E-02	.647E-03
45.00	9.53	N.D.	N.D.
60.00	10.76	.681E-02	.633E-03
85.00	11.91	N.D.	N.D.

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	0.62
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	11.91
FITTED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 62

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 148  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	75+12 WBM
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0450
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	=	320.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] × 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
2.00	1.56	2.402	0.27	.154E-02
10.00	4.65	3.488	0.287	.750E-03
60.00	8.34	7.649	0.484	.917E-03
120.00	8.62	9.484	0.484	.110E-02
150.00	9.68	9.683	0.537	.100E-02
245.00	17.02	10.71	0.627	.629E-03
300.00	21.71	11.09	0.86	.510E-03
363.00	26.39	11.52	0.806	.436E-03
420.00	29.45	11.52	0.86	.391E-03
480.00	30.83	11.93	1.631	.387E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	0.68
FITTED (DP/DT) <sub>D</sub> (KPA/MIN)	=	N.D.
MEASURED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	30.83
FITTED (P) <sub>EQ</sub> (KPA)	=	N.D.

TABLE I 64

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 150  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	=	75+53 ZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	=	0.0450
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.0
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	=	1.0000
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	=	160.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] × 10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	ZN <sub>2</sub> + / PH <sub>2</sub> S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
3.00	0.08	0.300	0.41	.382E-02
90.00	1.89	3.871	0.82	.194E-02
120.00	2.75	4.835	1.16	.176E-02
178.00	4.97	7.037	1.02	.142E-02

TABLE I 65

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 147  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = -17\*12 ZCR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0450  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 420.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] ×10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub>	ZN <sup>2+</sup> /PH2S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
2.60	0.06	0.881	0.842	.130E-01
60.00	1.97	2.94	0.896	.149E-02
120.00	6.81	9.026	1.033	.133E-02
180.00	11.40	11.40	1.219	.100E-02
240.00	18.05	12.70	1.434	.703E-03
300.00	23.21	13.77	1.613	.593E-03
360.00	26.96	14.07	1.703	.522E 00
420.00	30.08	16.22	2.366	.539E-03

TABLE I 66

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 145  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = -125\*106 PR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0450  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 130.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] ×10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub>	ZN <sup>2+</sup> /PH2S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
4.00	0.44	0.291	0.717	.659E-03
20.00	1.07	0.26	0.43	.243E-03
60.00	2.01	1.101	0.556	.546E-03
90.00	4.22	1.897	0.878	.451E-03
120.00	7.36	3.014	0.95	.409E-03
240.00	14.75	4.406	1.79	.299E-03
300.00	26.84	5.92	2.10	.221E-03
360.00	27.34	6.72	2.545	.246E-03

TABLE I 67

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 146  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = -75\*53 PR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0450  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 160.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] ×10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub>	ZN <sup>2+</sup> /PH2S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
4.00	0.16	0.199	0.448	.127E-02
40.00	2.52	1.346	0.896	.536E-03
65.00	5.95	2.493	1.61	.419E-03
180.00	22.74	6.31	4.122	.278E-03
240.00	28.63	6.884	4.48	.240E-03
330.00	36.50	8.23	5.37	.225E-03
360.00	37.60	8.23	5.91	.219E-03
390.00	38.70	8.261	5.914	.214E-03

TABLE I 68

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 144  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = -17\*12 PR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0450  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 420.0

KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	[Zn <sup>2+</sup> ] ×10 <sup>3</sup> (kg-mol/m <sup>3</sup> )	[Fe] <sub>TOT</sub>	ZN <sup>2+</sup> /PH2S (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> KPA)
2.00	0.02	0.612	N.D.	.262E-01
14.00	0.19	0.62	0.806	.338E-02
40.00	1.73	1.209	0.896	N.D.
60.00	2.28	2.54	1.147	N.D.
140.00	2.22	6.195	2.01	.279E-02
240.00	12.84	9.255	5.02	.720E-03
304.00	20.55	9.974	7.348	.485E-03
374.00	28.30	10.56	11.11	.373E-03
453.00	36.24	10.63	15.23	.293E-03

A P P E N D I X JTABULATED EXPERIMENTAL RESULTSFOR LEACHING UNDER CASE (ii) CONDITIONS

$$([\text{Fe}^{3+}]_0 : [\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4]_0 \geq 1,8)$$

The procedure adopted for processing case (ii) experimental leaching results is described in section G. 2.



TABLE J 1

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 122 (-125.0-106.0 $\mu$ m)  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WBM  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 358.0  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.9848  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = N.D.  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 65.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
7.50	.157 E-01	.985E 00	N.D.
32.00	.537 E-01	.888E 00	N.D.
90.00	.065 E-01	.788E 00	N.D.
165.00	.136 E 00	.716E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.2703  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 102.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0769  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0076

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0019

TABLE J 2

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 130  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WBM (-90.0-75.0)  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0386  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8224  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 80.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1500

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
6.00	.612E-02	.104E 01	N.D.
30.00	.184E-01	.967E 00	N.D.
60.00	.283E-01	.950E 00	N.D.
122.00	.428E-01	.949E 00	N.D.
240.00	.629E-01	.870E 00	N.D.
560.00	.109E 00	.741E 00	N.D.
1230.00	.179E 00	.600E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.1171  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 77.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.1110  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0058

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .667E-03

TABLE J 3

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 46  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WBM (-75.0-63.0 $\mu$ m)  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -75.0-63.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 343.0  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8147  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.337  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 80.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.5	0.00466	0.824	0.337
5.5	0.0116	0.815	0.316
10.0	0.0185	0.788	0.326
30.0	0.0382	0.761	0.332
65.0	0.0598	0.695	0.326
122.0	0.0918	0.632	0.337
180.0	0.12	0.60	0.326
435.0	0.199	0.442	0.339
495.0	0.214	0.405	0.342

Final extent X (-) = 0.2102  
 Final area (m<sup>2</sup>/kg) = 90.1  
 Total dry residue (kg) = 0.058  
 SULPHUR extracted (kg) = 0.034  
 Meas. Intl. rate (mol/min m<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0033

TABLE J 4

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 48  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WBM (-75.0-63.0 $\mu$ m)  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 355.50  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.7950  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.2980  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 80.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.627E-02	.768E 00	.306E 00
5.00	.217E-01	.750E 00	.311E 00
15.00	.451E-01	.725E 00	.317E 00
30.00	.642E-01	.698E 00	.300E 00
45.00	.814E-01	.671E 00	.316E 00
75.00	.113E 00	.609E 00	.332E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.1111  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 90.10  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0024  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0035

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .429 E-02

TABLE J 5

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 47  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WBM (-75.0-63.0 $\mu$ m)  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.5041  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.5612  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 80.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.181E-01	.149E 01	.571E 00
5.00	.467E-01	.145E 01	.566E 00
10.00	.704E-01	.139E 01	.562E 00
30.00	.150E 00	.127E 01	.612E 00
45.00	.196E 00	.124E 01	.600E 00
77.00	.277E 00	.103E 01	.638E 00
137.00	.356E 00	.843E 00	.648E 00
197.00	.392E 00	.716E 00	.684E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.3844  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 105.70  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0630  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0116

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .125 E-0

TABLE J 6

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 128  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WBM (-32.0-24.0 $\mu$ m)  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.2256  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1224  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 140.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.214E-02	.217E 00	.871E 00
10.00	.490E-02	.202E 00	N.D.
30.00	.106E-01	.193E 00	.880E 00
130.00	.259E-01	.149E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.0512  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 199.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0707  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0022

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .555 E-03

TABLE J 7

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $FE_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 127  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WBM  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = 24.0-17.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.0  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
 INITIAL  $FE_3^+$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.2131  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1235  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 320.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.05

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.8	0.179 E-02	0.220	0.112
7.0	0.314 E-02	0.213	0.110
30.0	0.788 E-02	0.200	0.116

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.001

TABLE J 8

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $FE_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 74  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = WHM (-17.0-12.0 $\mu$ m)  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 323.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $FE_3^+$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1468  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0612  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 420.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0300

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.50	.291E-02	.134E 00	.602E-01
15.00	.459E-02	.133E 00	.592E-01
30.00	.688E-02	.131E 00	.602E-01
60.00	.118E-01	.122E 00	.602E-01

FINAL EXTENT X (") = 0.3854  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 359.40  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUAL (KG) = 0.0261  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0003

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .580 E-03

TABLE J 9

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $FE_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 116  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $FE_3^+$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1504  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0510  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.50	.110E-01	.118E 00	.500E-01
15.50	.161E-01	.113E 00	.469E-01
33.00	.236E-01	.949E-01	.531E-01
69.00	.333E-01	.788E-01	.490E-01

FINAL EXTENT X (") = 0.2110  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 1637.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUAL (KG) = 0.0164  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0012

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .210E-02

TABLE J 10

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $FE_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 118  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 338.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $FE_3^+$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3044  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0735  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
4.50	.260E-01	.272E 00	N.D.
15.00	.382E-01	.210E 00	N.D.
45.00	.512E-01	.188E 00	N.D.
74.50	.630E-01	.183E 00	N.D.
255.00	.956E-01	.118E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (") = 0.5600  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 1309.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUAL (KG) = 0.0121  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0023

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .690E-02

TABLE J 11

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $FE_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 10  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = 212.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 303.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $FE_3^+$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3760  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1837  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 450.5  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.50	.734E-02	.350E 00	.184E 00
7.00	.795E-02	.350E 00	.176E 00
60.00	.144E-01	.347E 00	.173E 00
90.00	.165E-01	.340E 00	.178E 00
120.00	.199E-01	.333E 00	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>MIN) = 0.101 E-03  
 MEAS. INTL. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0068

TABLE J 12

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $FE_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 11  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = 212.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 323.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $FE_3^+$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3760  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1837  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 450.5  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	.704E-02	.376E 00	.184E 00
20.00	.159E-01	.355E 00	.184E 00
120.00	.428E-01	.304E 00	N.D.
150.00	.487E-01	.297E 00	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>MIN) = 0.372 E-03  
 MEAS. INTL. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0064

TABLE J 13

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 9  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION x10<sup>5</sup> (M) = 212.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 350.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3760  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1939  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 450.5  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.50	.147E-01	.322E 00	.176E 00
5.00	.245E-01	.322E 00	.176E 00
15.00	.398E-01	.308E 00	N.D.
30.00	.566E-01	.265E 00	.184E 00
45.00	.704E-01	.244E 00	.204E 00
61.00	.826E-01	.215E 00	N.D.
75.00	.878E-01	.197E 00	.194E 00
90.00	.933E-01	.192E 00	.190E 00
120.90	.102E 00	.172E 00	.194E 00
150.00	.112E 00	.158E 00	.194E 00

MEAS. INTL. RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) = 0.1176 E-02

MEAS. INTL. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0279

TABLE J 14

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 12  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION x10<sup>5</sup> (M) = 212.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 373.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3671  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1878  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 450.5  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	.272E-01	.358E 00	.184E 00
5.00	.324E-01	.322E 00	.185E 00
10.00	.474E-01	.283E 00	N.D.
15.00	.548E-01	.265E 00	N.D.
30.00	.765E-01	.222E 00	N.D.
60.00	.973E-01	.168E 00	N.D.
90.00	.115E 00	.147E 00	.206E 00
120.00	.121E 00	.125E 00	N.D.
150.00	.126E 00	.111E 00	.214E 00
205.00	.137E 00	.931E-01	.133E-01
223.00	.141E 00	.859E-01	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) = 0.2357 E-02

MEAS. INTL. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0229

TABLE J 15

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 14  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION x10<sup>5</sup> (M) = 106.0+90.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 343.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3832  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1878  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 140.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.434E-02	.383E 00	.188E 00
6.00	.120E-01	.383E 00	N.D.
15.00	.160E-01	.365E 00	N.D.
30.00	.212E-01	.351E 00	N.D.
45.00	.297E-01	.337E 00	.188E 00
60.00	.344E-01	.324E 00	N.D.
90.00	.428E-01	.304E 00	N.D.
120.00	.520E-01	.286E 00	.186E 00
150.00	.578E-01	.269E 00	N.D.
210.00	.661E-01	.251E 00	.190E 00
303.00	.747E-01	.231E 00	.191E 00
325.00	.872E-01	.215E 00	.192E 00
360.00	.884E-01	.210E 00	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) = 0.421 E-03

MEAS. INTL. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0092

TABLE J 16

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 124  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION x10<sup>5</sup> (M) = 106.0+90.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 358.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3438  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = N.D.  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 140.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
6.00	.262E-01	.299E 00	N.D.
15.00	.421E-01	.258E 00	N.D.
30.00	.598E-01	.215E 00	N.D.
50.00	.750E-01	.201E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.1590

FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 295.30

TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0400

SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0020

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .187E-02

MEAS. INTL. [ZN<sup>2+</sup>] (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0150

TABLE J 17

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 18  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION x10<sup>5</sup> (M) = 106.0+90.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3617  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1867  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 140.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.857E-02	.358E 00	.187E 00
6.00	.177E-01	.337E 00	N.D.
10.00	.268E-01	.315E 00	N.D.
15.00	.337E-01	.297E 00	N.D.
30.00	.502E-01	.254E 00	.190E 00
45.00	.636E-01	.224E 00	N.D.
60.00	.728E-01	.204E 00	N.D.
90.00	.849E-01	.174E 00	N.D.
140.00	.959E-01	.143E 00	N.D.
180.00	.109E 00	.122E 00	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) = 2.32 x 10<sup>-3</sup>

MEAS. INTL. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0033

TABLE J 18

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 23  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION x10<sup>5</sup> (M) = 106.0+90.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.9270  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.4692  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 140.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	Zn <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.242E-01	.906E 00	.459E 00
5.00	.471E-01	.865E 00	.473E 00
10.00	.765E-01	.777E 00	.482E 00
20.00	.116E 00	.686E 00	.488E 00
30.00	.151E 00	.616E 00	.490E 00
45.00	.181E 00	.537E 00	.498E 00
60.00	.208E 00	.480E 00	.504E 00
62.00	.223E 00	.478E 00	.512E 00
70.00	.231E 00	.455E 00	N.D.
80.00	.237E 00	.444E 00	N.D.
90.00	.263E 00	.423E 00	.518E 00
105.00	.266E 00	.401E 00	.524E 00
135.00	.281E 00	.347E 00	.527E 00
165.00	.297E 00	.313E 00	.524E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.4420

FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 337.40

TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0292

SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0043

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .600E-02

MEAS. INTL. [Zn<sup>2+</sup>] (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0150



TABLE J 19

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 120  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -90.0+ 75.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 338.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3044  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = N.D.  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
4.00	.903E-02	.286E 00	N.D.
20.00	.207E-01	.272E 00	N.D.
75.00	.444E-01	.224E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.0940  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 308.50  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0418  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0013

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .970E-03  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0050

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TABLE J 20

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 24  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -90.0+ 75.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 343.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.9132  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.4592  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	.106E-01	.911E 00	.455E 00
5.00	.200E-01	.906E 00	.451E 00
10.00	.359E-01	.859E 00	.459E 00
15.00	.451E-01	.845E 00	.471E 00
30.00	.704E-01	.757E 00	.469E 00
45.00	.803E-01	.734E 00	.469E 00
60.00	.109E 00	.695E 00	.465E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.2309  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 311.20  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0390  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0019

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .240E-02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0100

TABLE J 21

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 26  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -90.0+ 75.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.4826  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8041  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.102E 00	.136E 01	.790E 00
15.00	.223E 00	.111E 01	.788E 00
30.00	.312E 00	.867E 00	.794E 00
46.00	.382E 00	.738E 00	.806E 00
60.00	.416E 00	.648E 00	.812E 00
90.00	.477E 00	.501E 00	.822E 00
150.00	.581E 00	.344E 00	.841E 00
215.00	.639E 00	.201E 00	.841E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.6830  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 234.30  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0454  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0138

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .118E-01  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0300

TABLE J 22

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 27  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -90.0+ 75.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.9025  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.4745  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
3.00	.589E-01	.818E 00	.456E 00
6.00	.987E-01	.731E 00	.445E 00
10.00	.133E 00	.630E 00	.451E 00
15.00	.170E 00	.573E 00	.459E 00
30.00	.237E 00	.415E 00	.471E 00
60.00	.323E 00	.231E 00	.482E 00
75.00	.361E 00	.159E 00	.484E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.3840  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 316.70  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0482  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0084

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .120E-01  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0250

TABLE J 23

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 49  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -75.0+ 63.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 323.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8864  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.4541  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	.182E-01	.877E 00	.416E 00
6.50	.269E-01	.876E 00	.417E 00
15.00	.344E-01	.838E 00	.414E 00
30.00	.485E-01	.817E 00	.417E 00
60.00	.688E-01	.748E 00	.415E 00
90.00	.904E-01	.698E 00	.415E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%) = 0.0960  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 216.80  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0771  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0028

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .132E-02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0180

TABLE J 24

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 17  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -45.0+38.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 343.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3671  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1857  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 185.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	.500E-02	.365E 00	N.D.
7.00	.104E-01	.355E 00	N.D.
15.00	.182E-01	.329E 00	.202E 00
31.00	.312E-01	.304E 00	.186E 00
45.00	.393E-01	.286E 00	N.D.
60.00	.488E-01	.269E 00	N.D.
90.00	.584E-01	.247E 00	N.D.
120.00	.670E-01	.227E 00	.186E 00
155.00	.750E-01	.195E 00	N.D.
180.00	.812E-01	.168E 00	.185E 00

MEAS. INTL RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) = 0.914  $\times 10^3$   
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sup>2+</sup> (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) = 3.3  $\times 10^3$

TABLE J 25

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 15  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) =  $-45.0 + 38.0$   
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3671  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1878  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 185.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	.704E-02	.367E 00	.184E 00
5.00	.217E-01	.329E 00	.184E 00
10.00	.344E-01	.299E 00	.189E 00
15.00	.440E-01	.272E 00	.191E 00
25.00	.620E-01	.233E 00	.194E 00
40.00	.783E-01	.197E 00	.197E 00
60.00	.903E-01	.165E 00	.200E 00
90.00	.103E 00	.136E 00	.203E 00
120.00	.114E 00	.111E 00	.206E 00
180.00	.125E 00	.895E-01	.206E 00

MEAS. INTL. RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) =  $3.44 \times 10^{-3}$   
 MEAS. INTL.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) =  $3.0 \times 10^{-3}$

TABLE J 26

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 21  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) =  $-45.0 + 38.0$   
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3617  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1878  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 185.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0100

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.50	.490E-02	.362E 00	.187E 00
5.00	.128E-01	.344E 00	.187E 00
11.00	.228E-01	.322E 00	.189E 00
15.00	.292E-01	.308E 00	.193E 00
20.00	.347E-01	.290E 00	.194E 00
30.00	.433E-01	.276E 00	.198E 00
45.00	.509E-01	.251E 00	.199E 00
60.00	.554E-01	.240E 00	.201E 00
75.00	.612E-01	.229E 00	.202E 00
90.00	.639E-01	.229E 00	.201E 00
120.00	.655E-01	.218E 00	.204E 00
151.00	.695E-01	.208E 00	.203E 00
180.00	.698E-01	.202E 00	.204E 00
210.00	.725E-01	.201E 00	.204E 00
240.00	.750E-01	.199E 00	.204E 00

MEAS. INTL. RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) =  $2.5 \times 10^{-3}$   
 MEAS. INTL.  $[Zn^{2+}]$  (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>) =  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$

TABLE J 27

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 75  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = ZCR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) =  $-17.5 + 12.7$   
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 323.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1450  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0592  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 420.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.566E-02	.141E 00	.531E-01
15.00	.887E-02	.140E 00	.541E-01
30.00	.138E-01	.122E 00	.531E-01
45.00	.193E-01	.115E 00	.551E-01
120.00	.333E-01	.824E-01	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.1770  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 525.30  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0146  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0010

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .330E-03  
 MEAS. INTL.  $Zn^{2+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0040

TABLE J 28

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 104  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMZCR  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.0  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.144  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0633  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 2708.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.02

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
7.0	0.199E-01	0.1074	0.0694
16.0	0.289E-01	0.0798	N.D.
25.0	0.344E-01	0.0609	N.D.
45.0	0.408E-01	0.0466	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.2171  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 1801.0  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0141  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0012

MEAS. INTL. RATE (kg-mol/m<sup>3</sup>min) =  $3.5 \times 10^{-3}$

TABLE J 29

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC  $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$   
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 119  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMZCR  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 338.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL  $Fe^{3+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.2990  
 INITIAL  $H_2SO_4$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = N.D.  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 2708.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
10.00	.421E-01	.193E 00	N.D.
30.00	.597E-01	.175E 00	N.D.
75.00	.795E-01	.133E 00	N.D.
120.00	.883E-01	.110E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.4790  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 2442.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0136  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0029

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .700E-02  
 MEAS. INTL.  $Zn^{2+}$  (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

TABLE J 30

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 123
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= PR
SIZE FRACTION $\times 10^5$ (M)	= -106.0+90.0
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL $Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.3438
INITIAL $H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= ND.
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 140.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.367E-02	.337E 00	N.D.
20.00	.109E-01	.322E 00	N.D.
65.00	.219E-01	.301E 00	N.D.
120.00	.291E-01	.286E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%)	= 0.1732
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 176.60
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0180
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0005

MEAS. INTL RATE(KG-MOL/MIN M <sup>3</sup> )	= .400E-03
MEAS. INTL. $Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0020

TABLE J 31

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 131
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= PR
SIZE FRACTION $\times 10^5$ (M)	= -106.0+ 90.0
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.0
INITIAL $Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.4656
INITIAL $H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.6306
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 140.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.01	.142E 00	.466E 00	N.D.
2.00	.144E 00	.466E 00	N.D.
15.00	.144E 00	.466E 00	N.D.
61.00	.146E 00	.451E 00	N.D.
180.00	.150E 00	.412E 00	N.D.
240.00	.160E 00	.412E 00	N.D.
300.00	.165E 00	.390E 00	N.D.
420.00	.177E 00	.376E 00	N.D.
600.00	.190E 00	.347E 00	N.D.
780.00	.196E 00	.340E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%)	= 0.1270
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 705.00
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0437
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0024

MEAS. INTL RATE(KG-MOL/MIN M <sup>3</sup> )	= .800E-04
MEAS. INTL. $Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.142

Note: The leach solution used in this experiment contained 0.8% of the final filtered solution of the experiment reported on table J 2.

TABLE J 32

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 76
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= PR
SIZE FRACTION $\times 10^5$ (M)	= -90.0+ 75.0
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 343.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL $Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.7628
INITIAL $H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.4133
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 150.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.1500

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.317E-01	.670E 00	.410E 00
15.00	.803E-01	.564E 00	.408E 00
30.00	.128E 00	.455E 00	.416E 00
60.00	.194E 00	.260E 00	.414E 00
90.00	.248E 00	.143E 00	.414E 00
120.00	.298E 00	.842E-01	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%)	= 0.2340
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 764.00
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.1150
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0098

MEAS. INTL RATE(KG-MOL/MIN M <sup>3</sup> )	= .688E-02
MEAS. INTL. $Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0000

TABLE J 33

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= PR 79
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= PR residue from Run 76 (Table 32)
SIZE FRACTION $\times 10^5$ (M)	= -90.0+ 75.0
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 343.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL $Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.4118
INITIAL $H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.2224
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 764.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.50	.119E-01	.389E 00	.231E 00
10.00	.428E-01	.322E 00	.228E 00
30.00	.968E-01	.195E 00	.233E 00
45.00	.126E 00	.132E 00	.231E 00
60.00	.143E 00	.779E-01	.233E 00
70.00	.151E 00	.460E-01	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%)	= 0.3690
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 1075.00
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0779
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0047

MEAS. INTL RATE(KG-MOL/MIN M <sup>3</sup> )	= .530E-02
MEAS. INTL. $Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0000

\* Residue from Run 76 was CCl<sub>4</sub> washed to remove elemental sulphur prior to its use in this run

TABLE J 34

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 69
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= PR
SIZE FRACTION $\times 10^5$ (M)	= -75.0+63.0
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 308.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL $Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.1397
INITIAL $H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0633
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 150.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.199E-02	.138E 00	.629E-01
12.00	.367E-02	.133E 00	.633E-01
30.00	.688E-02	.118E 00	.633E-01
60.00	.138E-01	.115E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (%)	= 0.0321
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 241.10
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0446
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0005

MEAS. INTL RATE(KG-MOL/MIN M <sup>3</sup> )	= .210E-03
MEAS. INTL. $Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0013

TABLE J 35

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC $Fe_2(SO_4)_3$	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 70
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= PR
SIZE FRACTION $\times 10^5$ (M)	= -75.0+ 63.0
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL $Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.2793
INITIAL $H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.1112
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 150.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	$Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$Fe^{3+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	$H_2SO_4$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.00	.260E-02	.275E 00	.114E 00
11.00	.688E-02	.263E 00	.116E 00
30.00	.162E-01	.249E 00	.114E 00
60.00	.303E-01	.211E 00	.114E 00
92.00	.421E-01	.174E 00	.118E 00
120.00	.473E-01	.164E 00	.118E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (%)	= 0.1100
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 462.00
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0412
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0016

MEAS. INTL RATE(KG-MOL/MIN M <sup>3</sup> )	= .500E-03
MEAS. INTL. $Zn^{2+}$ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0020



TABLE J 36

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 52  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = PR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -75.0\* 63.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 324.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8022  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.2959  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.50	.119E-01	.779E 00	.289E 00
5.00	.109E-01	.770E 00	.298E 00
15.00	.259E-01	.722E 00	.293E 00
30.00	.535E-01	.677E 00	.292E 00
60.00	.926E-01	.594E 00	.300E 00
70.00	.111E 00	.580E 00	.301E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.1480  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 499.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0833  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0039

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .179E-02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0040

TABLE J 38

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 121  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = PR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -75.0\* 63.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 358.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.7162  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1551  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0800

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
6.00	.566E-01	.705E 00	N.D.
42.00	.156E 00	.408E 00	N.D.
88.00	.220E 00	.251E 00	N.D.
205.00	.288E 00	.609E-01	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.4210  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 884.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0534  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0095

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .940E-02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

TABLE J 40

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 129  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = PR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -24.0\* 17.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.2256  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8735  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 320.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0300

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.25	.311E-02	.218E 00	N.D.
5.00	.375E-02	.208E 00	.857E 00
15.00	.681E-02	.193E 00	N.D.
45.00	.165E-01	.172E 00	.851E 00
75.00	.245E-01	.156E 00	N.D.
136.00	.361E-01	.125E 00	N.D.
180.00	.410E-01	.115E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.1600  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 437.00  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0015

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .200E-03  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0030

TABLE J 37

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 50  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = PR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -75.0\* 63.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 343.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8774  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.4439  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.50	.116E-01	.851E 00	.446E 00
5.50	.315E-01	.811E 00	.439E 00
15.00	.757E-01	.709E 00	.441E 00
30.50	.145E 00	.578E 00	.459E 00
45.00	.181E 00	.469E 00	.456E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.2110  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 674.70  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0760  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0056

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .571E-02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

TABLE J 39

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 51  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = PR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -75.0\* 63.0  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 368.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.8058  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.3224  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 150.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.1000

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	.283E-01	.763E 00	.317E 00
5.00	.895E-01	.568E 00	.337E 00
10.00	.142E 00	.483E 00	.333E 00
20.00	.220E 00	.328E 00	.339E 00
30.00	.259E 00	.252E 00	.344E 00
40.00	.285E 00	.188E 00	.367E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.3330  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 181.60  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0678  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0090

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .305E-01  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

TABLE J 41

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>  
 EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 73  
 SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = PR  
 SIZE FRACTION  $\times 10^6$  (M) = -17.5\* 12.7  
 TEMPERATURE (K) = 323.00  
 STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.0  
 INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1468  
 INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0622  
 INITIAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 420.0  
 INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG) = 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.612E-02	.139E 00	.653E-01
15.00	.122E-01	.117E 00	.643E-01
30.00	.200E-01	.104E 00	.663E-01
60.00	.320E-01	.734E-01	.673E-01

FINAL EXTENT X (-) = 0.1810  
 FINAL AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 680.00  
 TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG) = 0.0161  
 SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG) = 0.0011

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.213 -02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0030

TABLE J 42

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 105
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 315.0
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.1432
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0633
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 2630.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.02

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.0	.1438E-01	.113E 00	.055
6.0	.2486E-01	.820E-01	.053
15.0	.3519E-01	.570E-01	.054
25.0	.4092E-01	.460E-01	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-)	= 0.2392
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 1365.0
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0141
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0012

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = 23.75 x 10<sup>-3</sup>

TABLE J 43

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 117
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 315.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.3080
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= N.D.
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 2630.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
2.30	.263E-01	.256E 00	N.D.
6.50	.303E-01	.248E 00	N.D.
19.00	.408E-01	.227E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-)	= 0.5600
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 982.30
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0105
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0034

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = 24.0 x 10<sup>-3</sup>

TABLE J 44

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 71
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 323.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.2901
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.1112
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 7200.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.203E-01	.252E 00	.104E 00
15.00	.338E-01	.224E 00	.105E 00
30.00	.428E-01	.208E 00	.106E 00
60.00	.627E-01	.174E 00	.104E 00
95.00	.760E-01	.145E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-)	= 0.1480
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 7610.00
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0371
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0018

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .900E-02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

TABLE J 45

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 78
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 343.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.1432
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.0633
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 7200.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.193E-01	.106E 00	.612E-01
15.00	.343E-01	.868E-01	.633E-01
30.00	.451E-01	.698E-01	.627E-01
45.00	.526E-01	.528E-01	.622E-01
60.00	.598E-01	.233E-01	.643E-01

FINAL EXTENT X (-)	= 0.2932
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 8260.00
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0014

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .600E-02  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

TABLE J 46

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 80
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 343.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.2919
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.1071
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 7200.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0200

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.321E-01	.235E 00	.106E 00
15.00	.532E-01	.192E 00	.110E 00
30.00	.685E-01	.165E 00	.110E 00
45.00	.809E-01	.127E 00	.111E 00
60.00	.867E-01	.106E 00	N.D.

FINAL EXTENT X (-)	= 0.4670
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 8858.00
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0122
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0024

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .116E-01  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

TABLE J 47

SPHALERITE LEACHING IN ACIDIC FE <sub>2</sub> (SO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 72
SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	= BDH
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 353.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 800.0
INITIAL FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.5802
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	= 0.2235
INITIAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 7200.0
INITIAL SOLIDS MASS (KG)	= 0.0500

TIME (MINS)	ZN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	FE <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
5.00	.117E 00	.365E 00	.227E 00
15.00	.151E 00	.249E 00	.234E 00
25.00	.181E 00	.197E 00	.238E 00
40.00	.223E 00	.141E 00	N.D.
60.00	.242E 00	.109E 00	.237E 00

FINAL EXTENT X (-)	= 0.4710
FINAL AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	= 5265.00
TOTAL DRY RESIDUE (KG)	= 0.0321
SULPHUR EXTRACTED (KG)	= 0.0049

MEAS. INTL RATE (KG-MOL/MIN M<sup>3</sup>) = .600E-01  
 MEAS. INTL. ZN<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0000

A P P E N D I X K

TABULATED EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS  
FOR THE OXIDATION OF H<sub>2</sub>S BY Fe<sup>3+</sup>  
IN THE ABSENCE AND PRESENCE OF  
SPHALERITE OR ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

The procedure adopted for processing this type of data is described in section G. 3.

Note that the same experimental run numbers are presented on the tables in Appendix I for the sphalerite dissolution reactions which generate H<sub>2</sub>S, as are presented in this appendix for the results of oxidising H<sub>2</sub>S thus generated by Fe<sup>3+</sup>.

TABLE K 1

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	217
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	NO SOLIDS
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0143
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	0.50
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0000
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	689.6
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1569.00
INITIAL H2S(mess)(KG-MOL/M3)	0.0414
TIME PH2S ZN2+	
(MINS) (KPA) (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	28.38 N.D.
1.00	21.62 N.D.
2.00	20.85 N.D.
3.00	20.08 N.D.
5.00	19.69 N.D.
10.00	19.11 N.D.
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN)	-15.4424

TABLE K 2

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	217
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	NO SOLIDS
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0286
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	0.50
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0000
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	559.7
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1569.00
INITIAL H2S(calc)(KG-MOL/M3)	0.0343
TIME PH2S ZN2+	
(MINS) (KPA) (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	19.11 N.D.
0.50	7.72 N.D.
1.00	4.63 N.D.
2.00	2.51 N.D.
3.00	1.66 N.D.
5.00	0.85 N.D.
10.00	0.08 N.D.
15.00	-0.12 N.D.
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN)	-32.7191

TABLE K 3

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	216
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	NO SOLIDS
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0143
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0000
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1134.0
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1654.00
INITIAL H2S(mess)(KG-MOL/M3)	0.0255
TIME PH2S ZN2+	
(MINS) (KPA) (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	28.95 N.D.
1.00	26.72 N.D.
2.00	25.48 N.D.
5.00	23.45 N.D.
10.00	22.01 N.D.
15.00	21.54 N.D.
20.00	21.16 N.D.
25.00	20.65 N.D.
30.00	20.54 N.D.
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN)	-2.6171

TABLE K 4

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	216
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	NO SOLIDS
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0286
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0000
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1118.0
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1654.00
INITIAL H2S(calc)(KG-MOL/M3)	0.01838
TIME PH2S ZN2+	
(MINS) (KPA) (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	20.54 N.D.
1.00	16.93 N.D.
2.00	14.63 N.D.
5.00	11.29 N.D.
10.00	8.99 N.D.
15.00	7.84 N.D.
20.00	7.14 N.D.
25.00	6.64 N.D.
30.00	6.18 N.D.
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN)	-5.1478

TABLE K 5

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	218
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	NO SOLIDS
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0143
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	2.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0000
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1120.0
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1824.00
INITIAL H2S(mess)(KG-MOL/M3)	0.0258
TIME PH2S ZN2+	
(MINS) (KPA) (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	28.95 N.D.
1.00	28.18 N.D.
2.00	27.72 N.D.
5.00	26.27 N.D.
10.00	24.75 N.D.
20.00	22.86 N.D.
30.00	21.77 N.D.
40.00	21.23 N.D.
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN)	-0.6451

TABLE K 6

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	218
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	NO SOLIDS
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0286
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	2.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0000
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1137.0
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1824.00
INITIAL H2S(calc)(KG-MOL/M3)	0.0187
TIME PH2S ZN2+	
(MINS) (KPA) (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	21.23 N.D.
1.00	19.30 N.D.
2.00	17.57 N.D.
5.00	14.28 N.D.
10.00	11.20 N.D.
20.00	8.11 N.D.
30.00	6.56 N.D.
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN)	-1.544



TABLE K 7

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 172

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMWBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0055  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.48  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 22972.59  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1698.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1569.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	11.04	.791E-02
1.00	9.93	N.D.
2.00	9.66	N.D.
3.00	9.31	N.D.
5.00	8.83	N.D.
10.00	8.35	N.D.
15.00	8.26	N.D.
20.00	8.32	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.7110

TABLE K 8

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 172

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMWBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0138  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.48  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 22972.59  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1698.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1569.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	8.28	.875E-02
1.00	6.11	N.D.
2.00	4.97	N.D.
5.00	3.00	N.D.
10.00	1.64	N.D.
15.00	1.17	N.D.
20.00	1.23	.978E-02

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.9924

TABLE K 9

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 176

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMWBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0055  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.97  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 19154.35  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1698.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	17.52	N.D.
1.00	17.15	N.D.
2.00	16.86	N.D.
2.00	16.86	N.D.
5.00	16.17	N.D.
10.00	15.56	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.3667

TABLE K 10

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 176

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMWBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0138  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.97  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 19155.35  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1698.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	15.21	.140E-01
1.00	13.83	N.D.
2.00	12.81	N.D.
5.00	10.99	N.D.
10.00	9.30	N.D.
15.00	8.39	N.D.
20.00	7.91	.153E-01

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.2804

TABLE K 11

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 175

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMWBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0055  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 13393.50  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1792.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	33.03	N.D.
2.00	32.30	N.D.
5.00	31.57	N.D.
10.00	30.73	N.D.
15.00	30.27	N.D.
20.00	30.27	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.2037

TABLE K 12

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 175

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMWBM  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0138  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 13393.50  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1792.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	30.27	.735E-01
2.00	27.66	N.D.
5.00	24.97	N.D.
10.00	22.20	N.D.
15.00	21.05	N.D.
20.00	20.82	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.1504

TABLE K 13

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 200

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0057  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.48  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 24273.42  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0040  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = N.D.  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1569.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	10.47	.888E-02
1.00	9.68	N.D.
2.00	9.20	N.D.
5.00	8.49	N.D.
10.00	8.20	N.D.
14.20	8.07	.967E-02

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.9196

TABLE K 14

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 200

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0143  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.48  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 24273.42  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0040  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = N.D.  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1569.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	7.97	.967E-02
1.00	6.01	N.D.
2.00	4.71	N.D.
3.00	3.82	N.D.
5.00	2.78	N.D.
10.00	1.63	N.D.
15.00	1.38	.110E-01

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -2.1301

TABLE K 15

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 199

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0143  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.56  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 18614.80  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0040  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = N.D.  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	26.64	.179E-01
1.00	24.90	N.D.
2.00	23.55	N.D.
5.00	21.54	N.D.
10.00	19.96	N.D.
15.00	19.30	N.D.
25.00	18.61	N.D.
30.00	18.92	.192E-01

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.7062

TABLE K 16

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 199

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0286  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.96  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 18614.80  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0040  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = N.D.  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	19.30	.192E-01
1.00	16.41	N.D.
2.00	14.09	N.D.
5.00	10.81	N.D.
10.00	8.49	N.D.
15.00	7.34	N.D.
20.00	6.49	N.D.
25.00	5.68	N.D.
30.00	5.02	.211E-01

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -3.6055

TABLE K 17

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 201

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0143  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 9809.35  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0040  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = N.D.  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1827.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	45.67	.285E-01
1.00	43.90	N.D.
2.00	42.39	N.D.
5.00	39.57	N.D.
10.00	36.98	N.D.
20.00	34.05	N.D.
30.00	33.20	.290E-01

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.7179

TABLE K 18

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 201

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = BDH  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0286  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 9809.35  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0040  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = N.D.  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1827.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	33.28	.290E-01
1.00	30.50	N.D.
2.00	28.45	N.D.
5.00	24.40	N.D.
10.00	20.85	N.D.
20.00	17.57	N.D.
30.00	15.36	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -3.0186

TABLE K 19

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4		EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 201	
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	=	BDH	
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00	
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.00	
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0286	
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	1.95	
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	=	9842.92	
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	=	0.0040	
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	N.D.	
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1827.00	
TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	15.13	N.D.	
1.00	14.09	N.D.	
2.00	13.13	N.D.	
3.00	12.35	N.D.	
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.1000			

TABLE K 20

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4		EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 170	
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	=	VMZCR	
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00	
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.00	
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0055	
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.48	
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	=	17851.25	
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	=	0.0100	
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1861.00	
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1569.00	
TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	13.16	N.D.	
1.00	12.31	N.D.	
2.00	11.64	N.D.	
5.00	11.14	N.D.	
8.00	10.87	N.D.	
10.00	10.92	N.D.	
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.8255			

TABLE K 21

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4		EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 170	
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	=	VMZCR	
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00	
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.00	
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0138	
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.48	
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	=	17851.25	
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	=	0.0100	
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1861.00	
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1569.00	
TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	10.87	964E-02	
1.00	8.66	N.D.	
2.00	7.45	N.D.	
3.00	6.72	N.D.	
5.00	5.65	N.D.	
10.00	4.09	N.D.	
15.00	3.57	N.D.	
20.00	3.67	N.D.	
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -2.4968			

TABLE K 22

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4		EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 170	
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	=	VMZCR	
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00	
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.00	
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0138	
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.48	
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	=	17851.25	
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	=	0.0100	
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1861.00	
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1569.00	
TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	3.67	103E-01	
1.00	2.55	N.D.	
2.00	1.98	N.D.	
3.00	1.58	N.D.	
4.00	1.36	N.D.	
5.00	1.27	N.D.	
6.00	1.19	N.D.	
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.8148			

TABLE K 23

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4		EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 168	
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	=	VMZCR	
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00	
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.00	
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0055	
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.97	
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	=	4795.32	
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	=	0.0050	
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1698.00	
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1654.00	
TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	17.42	121E-01	
1.00	17.10	N.D.	
2.00	17.00	N.D.	
5.00	16.63	N.D.	
10.00	15.17	N.D.	
15.00	14.79	N.D.	
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.3938			

TABLE K 24

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4		EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 168	
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	=	VMZCR	
TEMPERATURE (K)	=	318.00	
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	=	1000.00	
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.0138	
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	=	0.97	
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	=	4795.32	
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	=	0.0050	
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1698.00	
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	=	1654.00	
TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	
0.00	14.79	120E-01	
1.00	13.48	N.D.	
2.00	12.66	N.D.	
5.00	11.10	N.D.	
10.00	9.60	N.D.	
15.00	8.60	N.D.	
20.00	7.64	N.D.	
25.00	7.20	N.D.	
MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.0321			



TABLE K 25

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 168
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	= VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.0138
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.97
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	= 4795.32
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	= 0.0050
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1698.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	6.97	.123E-01
1.00	6.53	N.D.
2.00	6.20	N.D.
5.00	5.42	N.D.
10.00	4.51	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.3385

TABLE K 26

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 174
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	= VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.0055
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	= 1.94
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	= 8980.71
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	= 0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1861.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	40.33	.275E-01
2.00	39.95	N.D.
4.00	39.56	N.D.
6.00	39.18	N.D.
8.00	38.80	N.D.
10.00	38.53	N.D.
16.00	36.88	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.1853

TABLE K 27

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 174
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	= VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.0138
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	= 1.94
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	= 8980.71
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	= 0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1861.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	30.86	N.D.
1.00	35.03	N.D.
2.00	33.76	N.D.
5.00	31.42	N.D.
10.00	28.89	N.D.
15.00	27.54	N.D.
20.00	26.93	N.D.
25.00	26.81	N.D.
30.00	26.81	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -1.2047

TABLE K 28

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 174
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	= VMZCR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.0138
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	= 1.94
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	= 8980.71
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	= 0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1861.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	26.81	.277E-01
2.00	25.01	N.D.
4.00	23.74	N.D.
6.00	22.78	N.D.
10.00	21.24	N.D.
15.00	19.97	N.D.
20.00	19.09	N.D.
30.00	17.90	N.D.
35.00	17.90	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -0.8032

TABLE K 29

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 171
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	= VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.0055
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.48
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	= 17649.56
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	= 0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1308.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1569.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	8.45	.754E-02
0.33	6.72	N.D.
0.66	6.05	N.D.
1.00	5.76	N.D.
2.00	5.67	N.D.
3.00	5.67	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -8.4506

TABLE K 30

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	= 171
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	= VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	= 318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	= 1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.0138
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	= 0.48
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	= 17649.56
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	= 0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1308.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	= 1569.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	5.72	.826E-02
0.33	3.73	N.D.
0.66	2.46	N.D.
1.00	1.59	N.D.
2.00	0.31	N.D.
3.00	0.00	N.D.
5.00	0.00	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -5.7230

TABLE K 31

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 169

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMPR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.0055  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.97  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 206468.23  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0850  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1698.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/H3)
0.00	16.28	.115E+01
1.00	14.40	N.D.
2.00	13.70	N.D.
3.00	13.31	N.D.
4.00	13.13	N.D.
5.00	13.07	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -2.7373

TABLE K 32

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 169

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMPR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.0138  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.97  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 4514.41  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0050  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1698.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/H3)
0.00	13.16	.116E+01
1.00	11.24	N.D.
2.00	10.40	N.D.
3.00	9.87	N.D.
5.00	9.10	N.D.
10.00	7.78	N.D.
15.00	7.01	N.D.
20.00	6.29	N.D.
25.00	5.81	N.D.
30.00	5.38	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -2.6413

TABLE K 33

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 101

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VIBR PR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.0045  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 35267.28  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0200  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1561.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/H3)
0.00	20.30	.214E+02
0.33	17.18	N.D.
0.66	16.08	N.D.
1.00	15.40	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -24.9872

TABLE K 34

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 101

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VIBR PR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 800.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.0045  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 35267.28  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0200  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1561.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1654.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/H3)
0.00	16.24	.220E+01
0.33	13.43	N.D.
0.66	11.93	N.D.
1.00	11.37	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -12.8059

TABLE K 35

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 173

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMPR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.0055  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/H3) = 1.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 8547.58  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1850.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/H3)
0.00	27.48	.242E+01
0.33	34.67	N.D.
0.66	34.11	N.D.
1.00	33.82	N.D.
2.00	33.76	N.D.
4.00	33.88	N.D.
6.00	33.92	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -8.4506

TABLE K 36

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4  
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 173

SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT = VMPR  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.00  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/H3) = 0.0055  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/H3) = 1.95  
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3) = 8547.58  
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG) = 0.0100  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1850.00  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = 1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/H3)
0.00	33.92	N.D.
0.33	32.25	N.D.
0.66	31.42	N.D.
1.00	30.86	N.D.
2.00	30.36	N.D.
3.00	30.36	N.D.
5.00	30.46	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -5.5988

TABLE K 37

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	173
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0138
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.95
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	8547.58
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1861.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	30.36	245E-01
0.50	27.71	N.D.
1.00	26.31	N.D.
2.00	24.45	N.D.
3.00	23.07	N.D.
5.00	21.40	N.D.
8.00	20.53	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -7.6824

TABLE K 38

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	173
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	VMPR
TEMPERATURE (K)	318.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0121
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.95
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	8547.58
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1861.00
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1824.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	20.59	245E-01
0.33	18.82	N.D.
0.66	18.13	N.D.
1.00	17.73	N.D.
2.00	16.77	N.D.
5.00	15.15	N.D.
10.00	13.58	N.D.
15.00	12.46	N.D.
20.00	12.23	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -5.2816

TABLE K 39

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	222
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	NO SOLIDS
TEMPERATURE (K)	298.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0491
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0000
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	N.D.
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1225.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	26.21	N.D.
1.00	23.47	N.D.
3.00	20.39	N.D.
5.00	18.36	N.D.
10.00	15.28	N.D.
15.00	13.53	N.D.
20.00	12.17	N.D.
30.00	10.62	N.D.
10.00	9.74	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -3.4299

TABLE K 40

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	220
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	ACT. CHAR.
TEMPERATURE (K)	298.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0491
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0030
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	N.D.
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1225.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	26.77	N.D.
1.00	19.16	N.D.
2.00	16.07	N.D.
3.00	14.11	N.D.
4.00	12.63	N.D.
5.00	11.50	N.D.
7.00	9.66	N.D.
10.00	8.05	N.D.
15.00	6.41	N.D.
20.00	5.51	N.D.
25.00	4.90	N.D.
30.00	4.73	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -9.2102

TABLE K 41

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	221
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	ACT. CHAR.
TEMPERATURE (K)	298.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0491
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0100
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	N.D.
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1225.00

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	26.35	N.D.
0.50	16.42	N.D.
1.00	13.21	N.D.
2.00	9.92	N.D.
3.00	8.30	N.D.
4.00	7.44	N.D.
5.00	6.95	N.D.
7.00	6.24	N.D.
10.00	5.66	N.D.
15.00	5.15	N.D.
20.00	4.84	N.D.
25.00	4.60	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -22.3304

TABLE K 42

FE3+ OXIDN. OF H2S IN AQUEOUS H2SO4	
EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO.	223
SPHAL. TYPE PRESENT	ACT. CHAR.
TEMPERATURE (K)	298.00
STIRRER SPEED (RPM)	1000.00
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3)	0.0491
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3)	1.00
TOTAL SOLIDS AREA (M2/M3)	0.00
INITIAL SOLIDS (KG)	0.0200
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	N.D.
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL)	1225.00

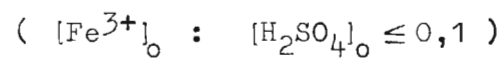
TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.00	26.85	N.D.
0.25	16.28	N.D.
0.50	13.34	N.D.
1.00	10.42	N.D.
2.00	8.34	N.D.
3.00	7.44	N.D.
4.00	6.92	N.D.
5.00	6.54	N.D.
7.00	5.93	N.D.
10.00	5.47	N.D.
15.00	4.76	N.D.

MEAS. INTL. RATE (KPA/MIN) = -52.9998



A P P E N D I X L

TABULATED EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS  
FOR LEACHING UNDER CASE (iii) CONDITIONS



This type of data was qualitatively interpreted  
as discussed in section G. 4.

TABLE L 1

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 180  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM\*FE3+ at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.5000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub>+ (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0138  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1569E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	0.00	.294E-02
5.00	0.00	.550E-02
15.00	0.00	.592E-02
62.00	0.00	.601E-02
90.00	0.00	.604E-02

TABLE L 2

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 177  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM\*FE3+ at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub>+ (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0138  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	3.75	.430E-02
5.00	4.90	.765E-02
10.00	5.28	.948E-02
21.50	7.49	.115E-01
30.00	8.93	.118E-01
45.00	10.47	.131E-01
60.00	11.43	N.D.
75.00	12.29	.144E-01

TABLE L 3

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 178  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM\*FE3+ at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub>+ (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0275  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	1.44	N.D.
5.00	3.07	.878E-03
10.00	0.05	N.D.
15.00	0.00	N.D.
30.00	0.38	.120E-01
45.00	0.84	.329E-01
60.00	1.58	.132E-01
90.00	2.78	.145E-01

TABLE L 4

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 179  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM\*FE3+ at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub>+ (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0550  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.33	0.67	N.D.
0.66	0.72	N.D.
1.00	0.53	.535E-02
2.00	0.26	N.D.
5.00	0.10	.981E-02
17.00	0.00	.782E-02
25.00	0.00	N.D.
30.00	0.00	.217E-01
45.00	0.00	N.D.
60.00	0.00	.259E-01

TABLE L 5

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 210  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM\*FE3+ at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04  
INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub>+ (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0570

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.25	0.53	N.D.
0.50	0.50	N.D.
1.00	0.34	.600E-02
5.00	0.07	.110E-01
10.00	0.00	N.D.
15.00	0.05	.175E-01
30.00	0.36	.205E-01
45.00	0.82	.215E-01
60.00	1.10	.214E-01
75.00	1.49	.216E-01

TABLE L 6

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 181  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM\*FE3+ at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 2.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3</sub>+ (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0138  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1824E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.33	3.00	N.D.
0.66	4.30	N.D.
1.00	5.22	.617E-02
2.00	6.38	N.D.
6.00	7.61	.102E-01
10.00	8.45	N.D.
15.00	10.64	.133E-01
30.00	15.44	.173E-01
45.00	18.52	.179E-01
60.00	20.36	N.D.

TABLE L 7

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 182  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM+A.C.at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (SPHAL.) (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 3272.0  
INTL. ACT. CHARCOAL (KG) = 0.0050

KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.30	7.11	.770E-02
5.00	11.62	.104E-01
10.00	13.25	N.D.
15.00	14.02	.128E-01
30.00	15.17	.144E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 9.22  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 9.87  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 15.46  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 15.40

TABLE L 8

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 212  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWBM+A.C.at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 3272.0  
INTL. ACT. CHARCOAL (KG) = 0.0100

KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.50	3.94	N.D.
0.80	5.95	.737E-02
2.00	9.03	N.D.
5.00	11.62	.119E-01
10.00	12.91	.134E-01
20.00	14.21	.145E-01
30.00	14.87	N.D.
40.00	15.27	.155E-01

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 10.45  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 11.30  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 15.27  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 15.10

TABLE L 9

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 183  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWRM+FE+ACT.CHAR.  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
0.33	1.08	N.D.
0.66	1.31	N.D.
1.00	1.34	.433E-02
2.00	1.15	N.D.
5.00	1.97	.765E-02
10.00	4.99	.107E-01
30.00	7.25	.128E-01
45.00	8.60	.141E-01

INTL. ACT. CHARCOAL (KG) = 0.0050

TABLE L 10

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 215  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWRM+FE3+ACT. CHAR.  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (SPHAL.) (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0573  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.0	0	6.042 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
5.0	0	11.473 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
15.0	0	18.051 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
30.0	0	22.793 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
45.0	0	23.56 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
60.0	0	23.925 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>

MASS OF ACT. CHARCOAL (kg) = 0.01

TABLE L 11

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 214  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWRM+FE3+ACT.CHAR.  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE3+ (KG-MOL/M3) = 0.0573  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)
1.0	0	5.997 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
5.0	0	11.779 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
15.0	0	17.286 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
30.0	0	21.493 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
45.0	0	21.952 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>
60.0	0	22.411 x 10 <sup>-3</sup>

MASS OF ACT. CHARCOAL (kg) = 0.02

TABLE L 12

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 184  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H2SO4

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWRM+SUL.at t=0  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H2SO4 (KG-MOL/M3) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M2/KG) = 3272.0  
CDEXP (KG-MOL/M3 KPA) = .7320E-03  
KDEXP (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1669E 04  
KDCALC (KPA M3/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04  
INTL. POWDER ADDED (KG) = 0.0100

TIME (MINS)	PH2S (KPA)	ZN2+ (KG-MOL/M3)	ZN2+/PH2S (KG-MOL/M3 KPA)
0.50	4.61	N.D.	N.D.
1.20	8.83	.696E-02	.788E-03
5.00	14.40	.110E-01	.762E-03
16.00	17.29	.114E-01	.660E-03
30.00	18.63	N.D.	N.D.
45.00	19.21	.141E-01	.733E-03

MEASURED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 15.36  
FITTED (DP/DT)0 (KPA/MIN) = 12.30  
MEASURED (P)EQ (KPA) = 19.21  
FITTED (P)EQ (KPA) = 19.50

TABLE L 13

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 188  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMWHM+Zn+Fe<sub>at t=0</sub>)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 3272.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.33	0.48	N.D.
0.66	0.57	N.D.
1.00	0.49	.299E-01
2.00	0.35	N.D.
3.00	0.14	N.D.
5.00	0.06	N.D.
10.00	0.00	N.D.
20.00	0.00	.419E-01
40.00	0.00	.434E-01
60.00	0.24	.465E-01
80.00	0.67	N.D.
90.00	0.75	.499E-01

INITIAL ZN<sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0299  
INITIAL FE<sub>3+</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0550

TABLE L 14

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 207  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMZCR+FE<sub>3+at t=0</sub>)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3+</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0287  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 2700.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.50	1.92	N.D.
1.00	2.54	.475E-02
2.00	2.88	N.D.
3.00	2.84	N.D.
6.00	2.53	.962E-02
10.00	1.98	N.D.
15.00	1.46	.128E-01
20.00	1.46	N.D.
25.00	1.46	N.D.
30.00	1.65	.145E-01
40.00	2.69	N.D.
62.00	4.74	.159E-01
80.00	6.15	N.D.
100.00	7.68	N.D.
105.70	8.07	.180E-01

TABLE L 15

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 211  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMZCK+FE<sub>3+at t=0</sub>)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3+</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0573  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 2700.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.50	0.84	N.D.
1.00	1.05	.525E-02
5.00	1.13	.106E-01
10.00	1.13	N.D.
14.70	1.19	.168E-01
29.80	1.34	.208E-01
45.00	1.54	.226E-01
60.00	3.76	.236E-01

TABLE L 16

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 206  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH+FE<sub>3+at t=0</sub>)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3+</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0287  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 7200.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	2.50	.326E-02
2.00	3.78	N.D.
3.00	4.37	N.D.
5.00	4.80	.888E-02
10.00	4.80	.128E-01
13.00	4.76	N.D.
15.00	4.86	N.D.
20.00	5.17	N.D.
25.00	5.72	N.D.
30.00	6.82	.178E-01
40.00	8.83	N.D.
60.00	11.24	.202E-01

TABLE L 17

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 208  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = BDH+FE<sub>3+at t=0</sub>)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0040  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3+</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.1146  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 7200.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
0.50	0.79	N.D.
1.25	1.06	.809E-02
2.00	0.91	N.D.
7.00	0.58	.123E-01
15.00	0.55	N.D.
20.70	0.48	.216E-01
40.00	0.79	.259E-01
50.00	0.79	N.D.
60.00	0.79	.281E-01

TABLE L 18

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. = 209  
SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED = VMPR+FE<sub>3+at t=0</sub>)  
TEMPERATURE (K) = 318.00  
INITIAL MASS (KG) = 0.0100  
STIRRER SPEED (RPM) = 1000.0  
INITIAL H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 1.0000  
INITIAL FE<sub>3+</sub> (KG-MOL/M<sup>3</sup>) = 0.0143  
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M<sup>2</sup>/KG) = 2630.0  
KDCALC (KPA M<sup>3</sup>/KG-MOL) = .1654E 04

TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.60	0.13	.579E-02
5.00	0.38	.785E 01
10.00	0.60	N.D.
19.50	0.77	.861E-02
30.00	0.88	N.D.
39.70	1.10	.852E-02
50.00	2.38	N.D.
60.00	3.99	.999E-02
70.00	5.60	N.D.
80.00	6.91	N.D.
90.00	7.88	.129E-01

TABLE L 19

EXPERIMENTAL RUN NO. ■ 205  
 SPHALERITE LEACHING IN AQUEOUS H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>

SPHAL. TYPE LEACHED	■	VMPR(Fe <sup>3+</sup> at t=0)
TEMPERATURE (K)	■	318.00
INITIAL MASS (KG)	■	0.0100
STIRRED SPEED (RPM)	■	1000.0
INITIAL H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	■	1.0000
INITIAL FE <sup>3+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )	■	0.0287
SPEC. SURFACE AREA (M <sup>2</sup> /KG)	■	2630.0
KDCALC (KPA M <sup>3</sup> /KG-MOL)	■	.1654E 04
TIME (MINS)	PH <sub>2</sub> S (KPA)	ZN <sup>2+</sup> (KG-MOL/M <sup>3</sup> )
1.00	0.10	.598E-02
5.00	0.19	.973E-02
20.00	0.44	.138E-01
30.00	0.56	.140E-01
60.00	1.31	.141E-01
90.00	1.60	.139E-01

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- 4.2 Example of graphically determining  $\psi_4(X)$  and



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## Figure

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## Figure

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Figure

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## Figure

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