

Pacificchem 2005

Honolulu, Hawaii, December 19, 2005

Recent Results Indicative of Non-Arrhenius Behavior

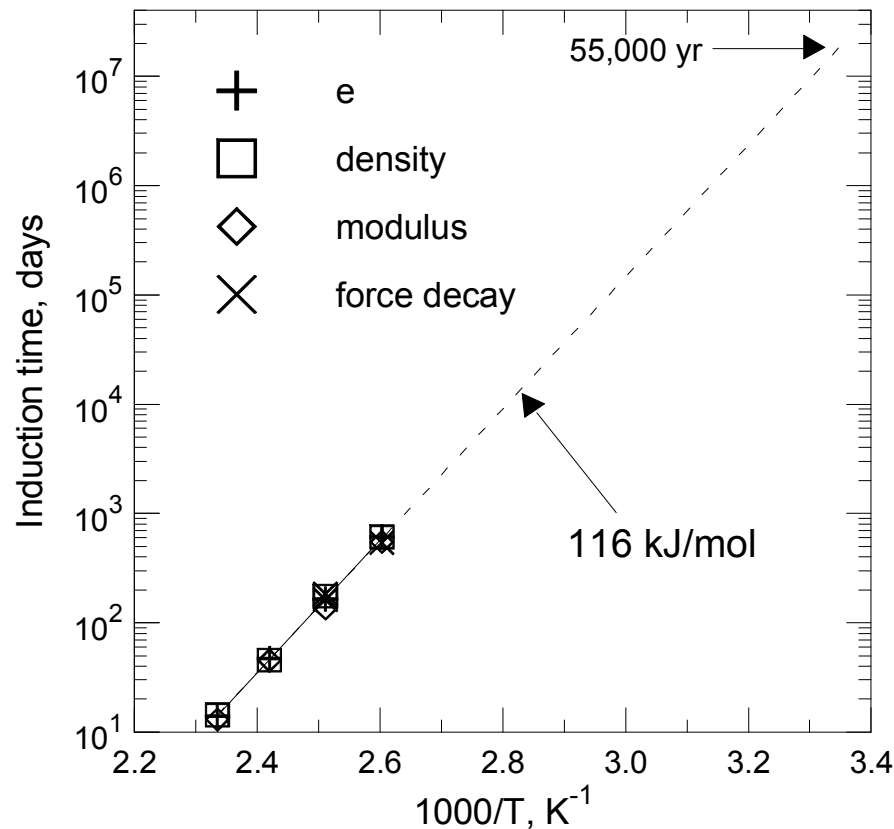
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Historic Arrhenius Approach for Lifetime Prediction

- Measure “failure” times & create Arrhenius plot [$t \sim \exp(-E_a/RT)$]
- Extrapolate to make predictions
- Typical data over a factor of 20- anything looks “Arrhenius”



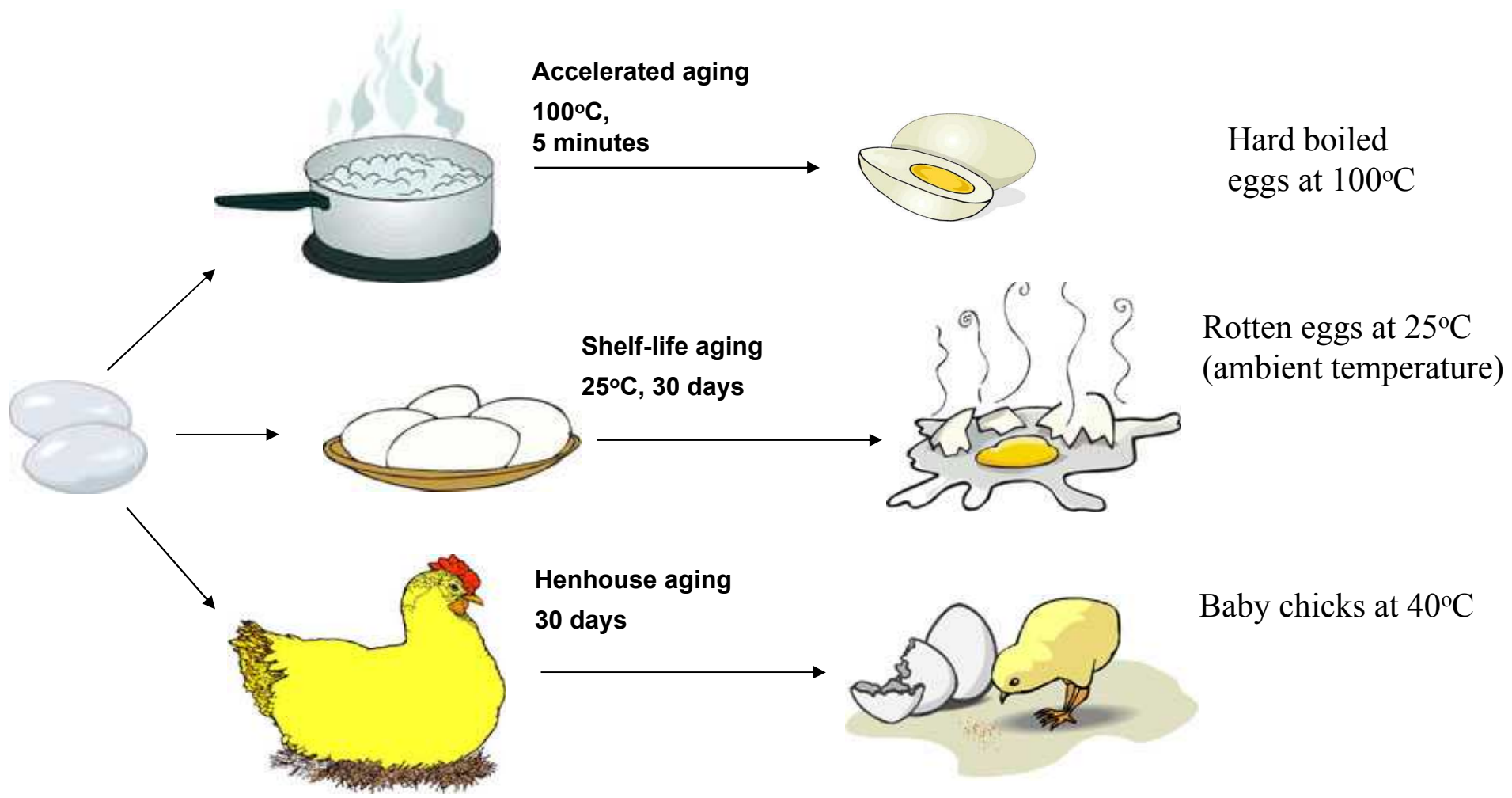
EPDM O-RING

- Long life predicted if E_a remains constant
- But long extrapolation (extrapolation range ~ 2 data range)
- Therefore little confidence in the prediction

Reference- Gillen, Celina, Clough and Wise, Review paper in *Trends in Polymer Science*, 5, 250 (1997).

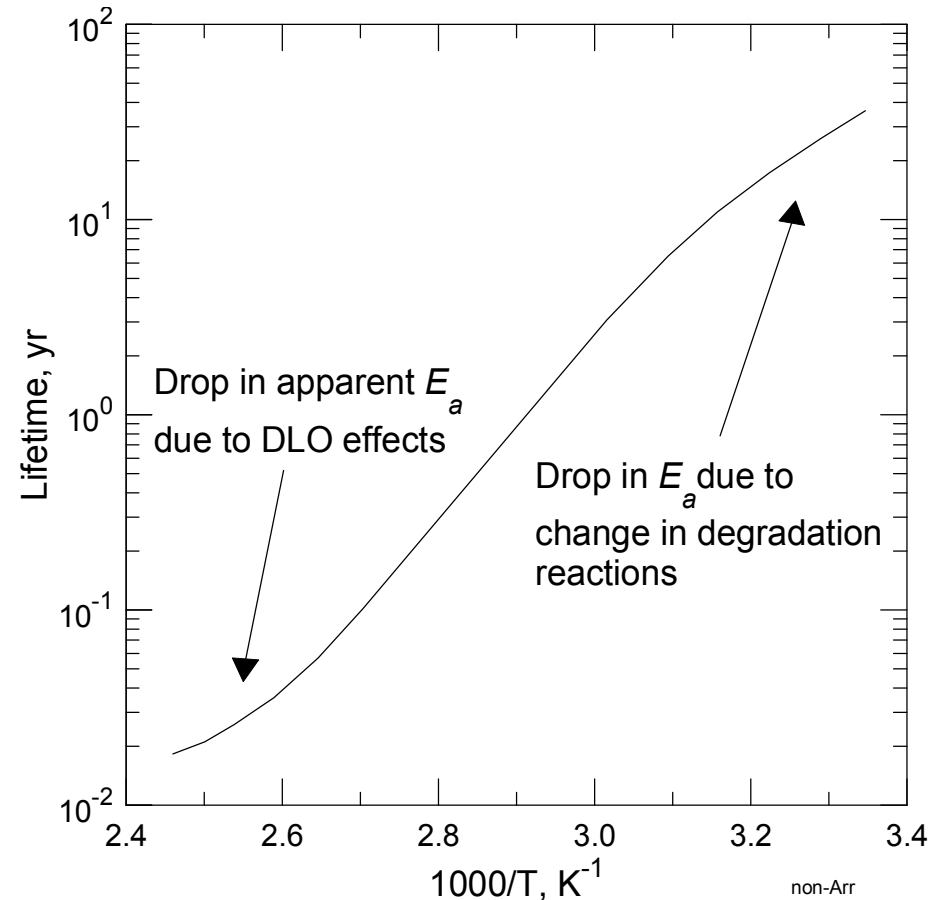


Concern- relative mix of reactions may change as temperature increased



Selected Phenomena That May Result in Non-Arrhenius Behavior

- Dominant reactions can change with T
-tends to give **lower E_a as T lowered**)
- Polymer transition region (T_g or T_{mp}).
- Reactions can depend on sample geometry
 - diffusion-limited oxidation (DLO)
 - tends to give **lower E_a as T raised**)



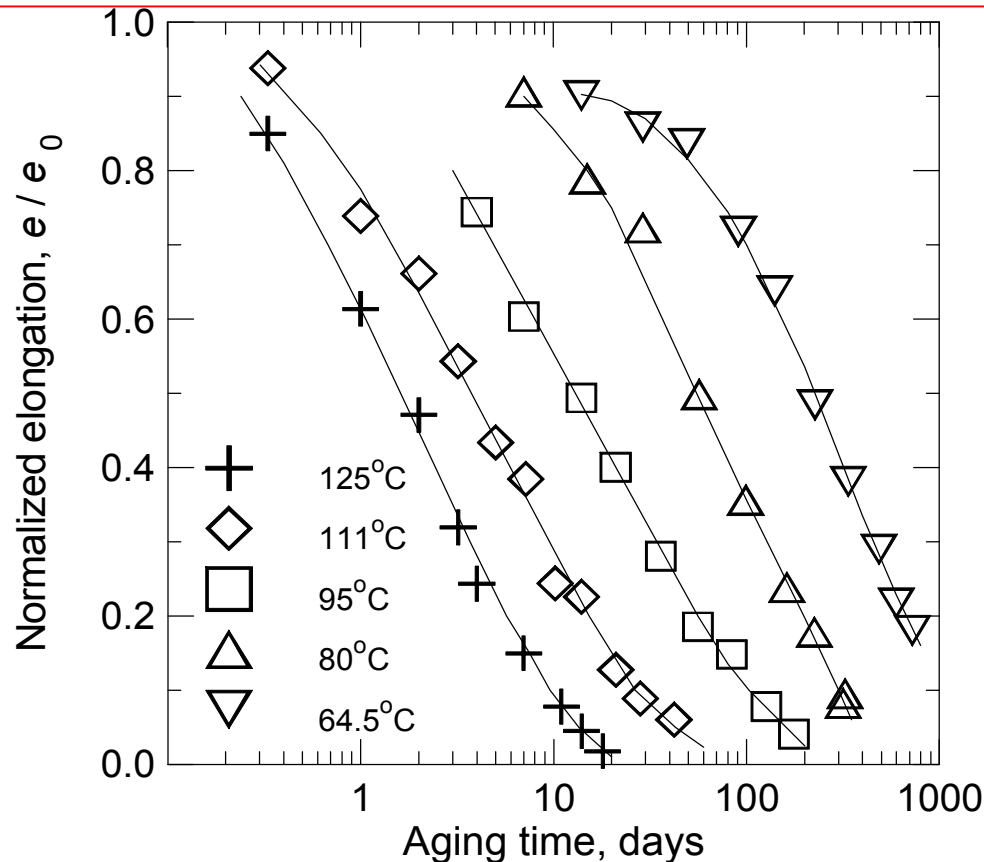
Other standard Arrhenius approach problems

1. Most data eliminated. Solution- **time-temperature superposition**.
2. No confirmation of E_a extrapolation. Solution- **ultrasensitive O₂ consumption** measurements extending into extrapolation region.

Improved approach- time-temperature superposition

Principle of accelerated aging- raise T to increase overall reaction rate

- implies curves at 2 T 's related by constant multiplier (constant acceleration)
- implies same curve shape when plotted versus log time
- choose reference T (multiplicative shift factor $a_T = 1$)
- at each T , find empirical a_T that gives optimum superposition



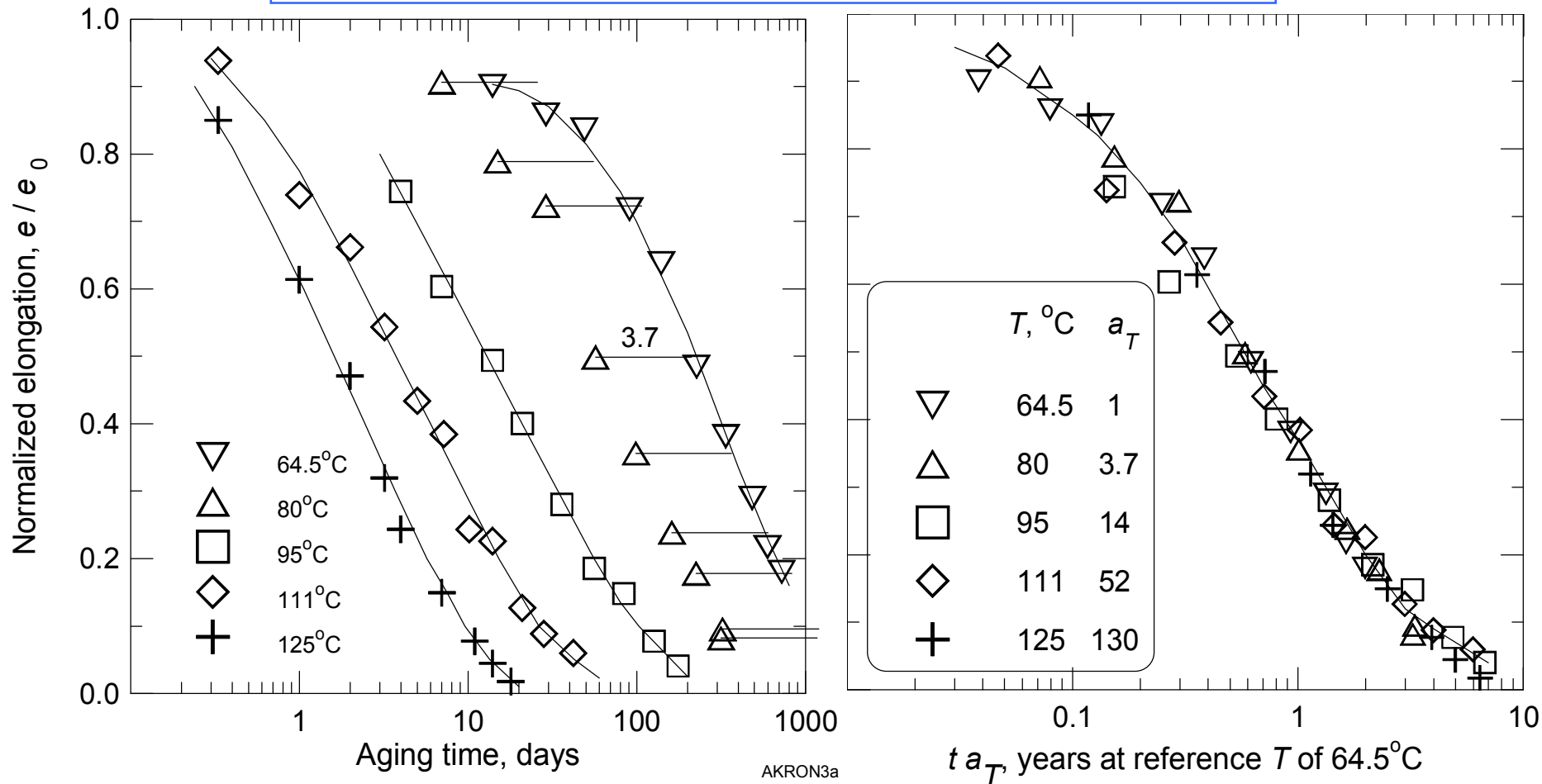
Commercial nitrile rubber
- e vs. T and time

NOTE

- 2 years of aging at 64.5°C
- data covers a factor of ~ 130
- this gives better Arrhenius test
- this also minimizes extrapolation

Nitrile- empirical t - T superposition at 64.5°C

a_T defined as shift factor for temperature T



Normal Arrhenius- 1 point per T (e.g., time to $e/e_0 = 0.25$)
Superposition- every datum point is used in the analysis

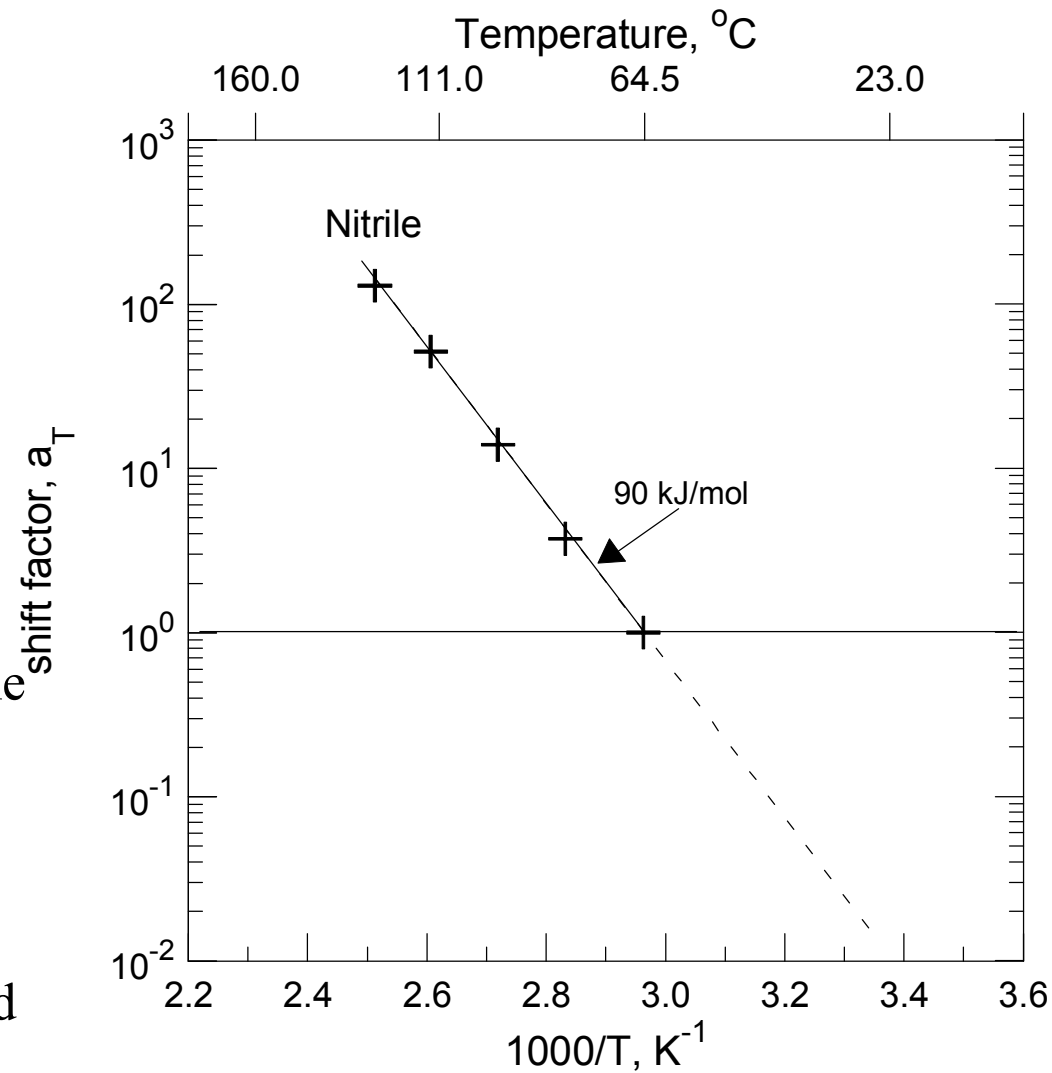
Can Test Various Models on Empirical a_T 's

If Arrhenius,

$$a_T = \exp \frac{E_a}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T_{ref}} - \frac{1}{T} \right)$$

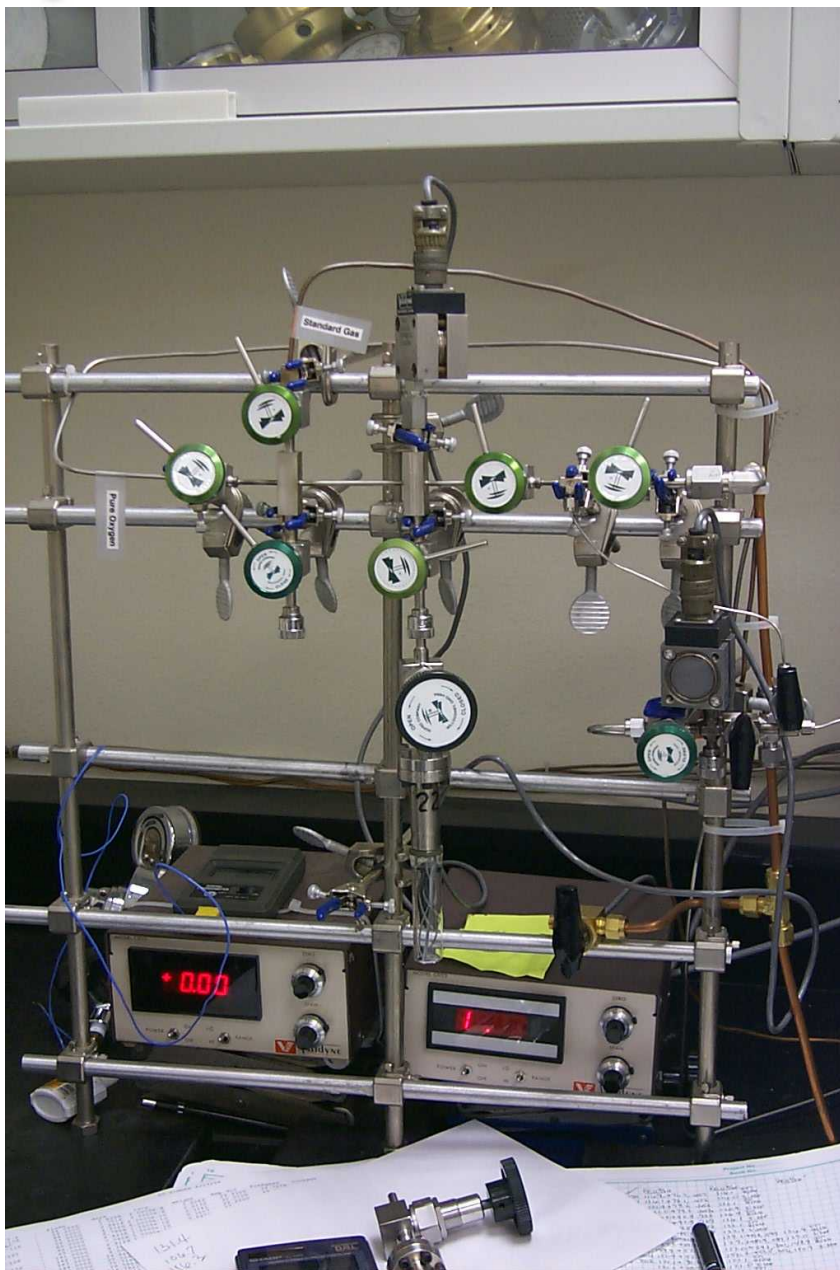
Dashed line ($a_T < 1$) gives unconfirmed extrapolation to lower T 's

- need access to low temperature regime
- implies need for ultrasensitive analytical technique
- property must be correlated to aging mechanism
- since oxidation dominates air-exposed samples, solution is O₂ consumption measurements

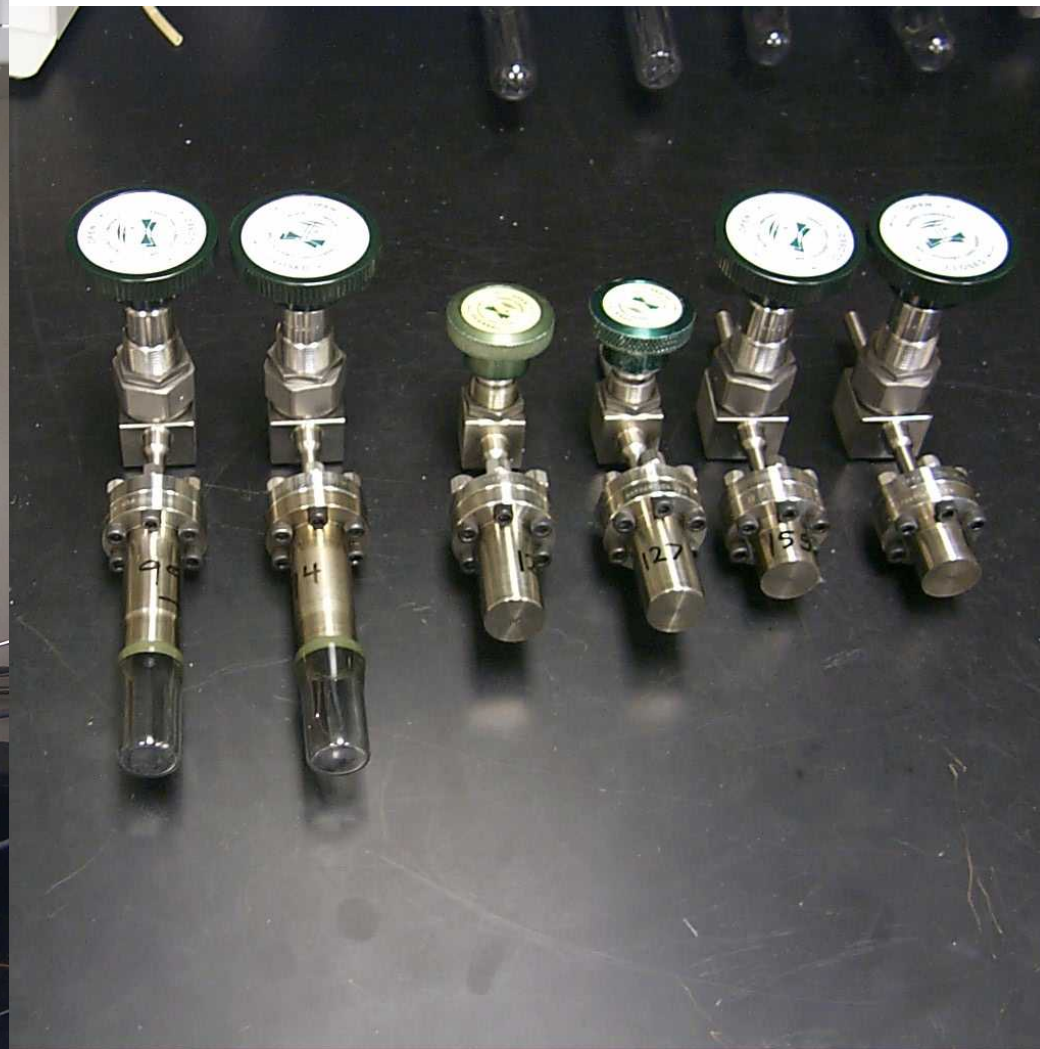


Ultrasensitive Oxygen Consumption (UOC)

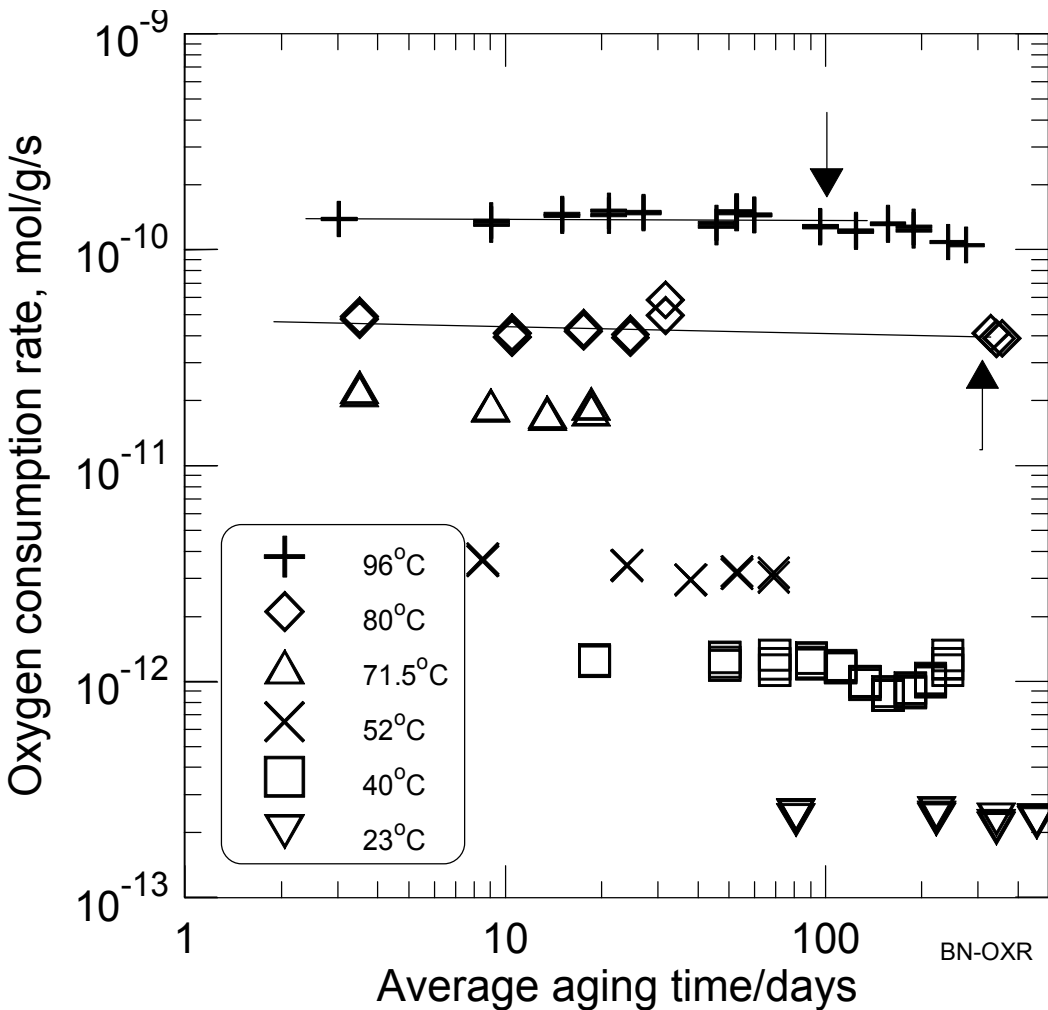
Gas handling line



Typical sample containers

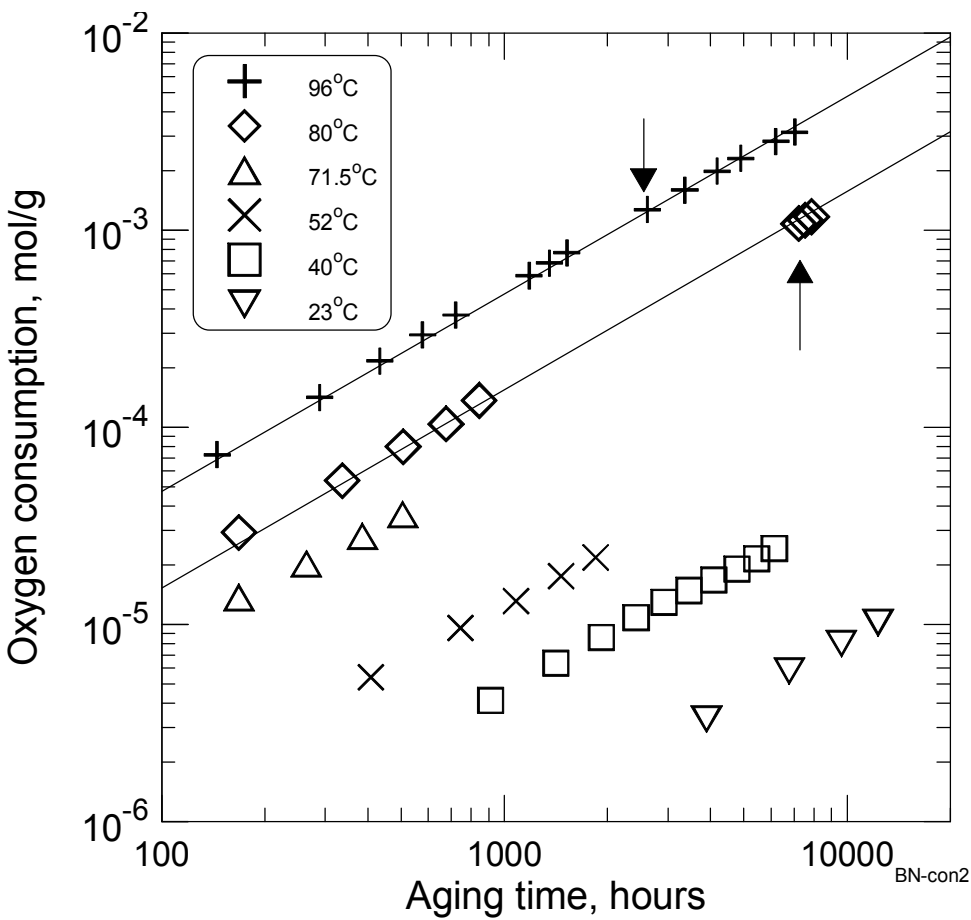


O_2 consumption results for nitrile rubber

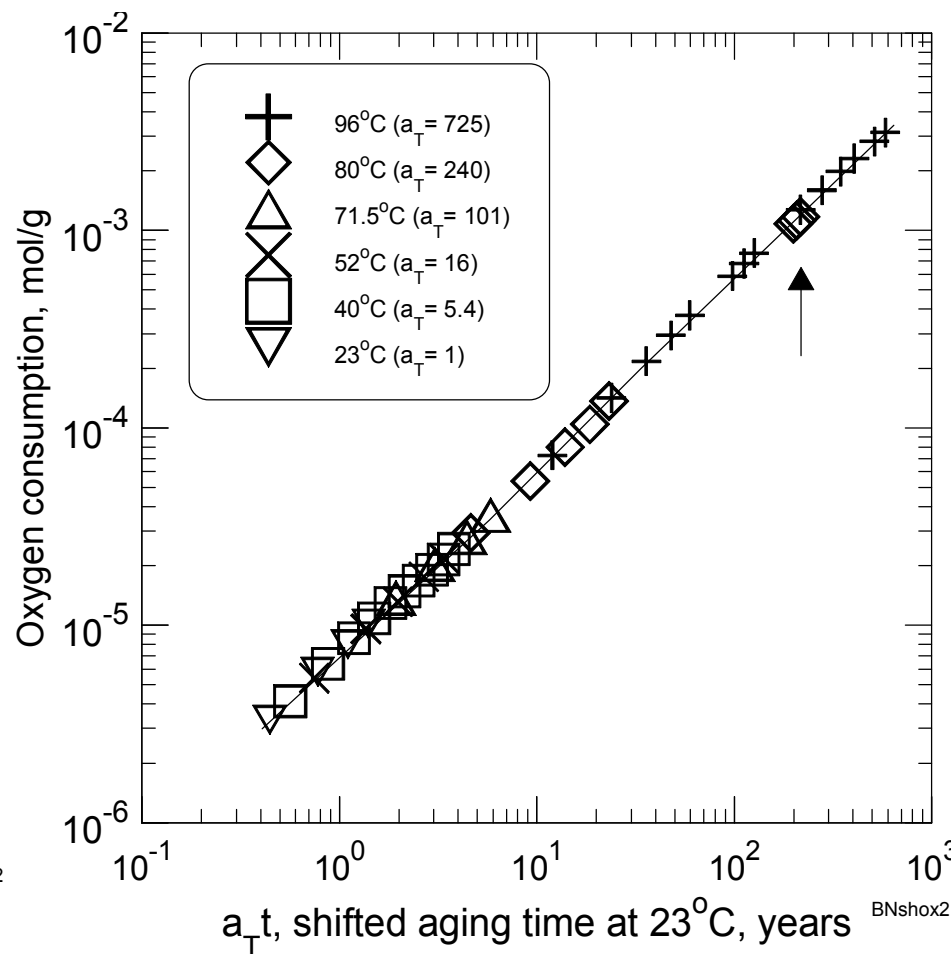


- elongation taken down to 65°C (2 years of aging)
- UOC results obtained down to room T (23°C)
- constant rate at each T
- consistent with constant acceleration assumption
- arrows denote time to 10% of initial elongation

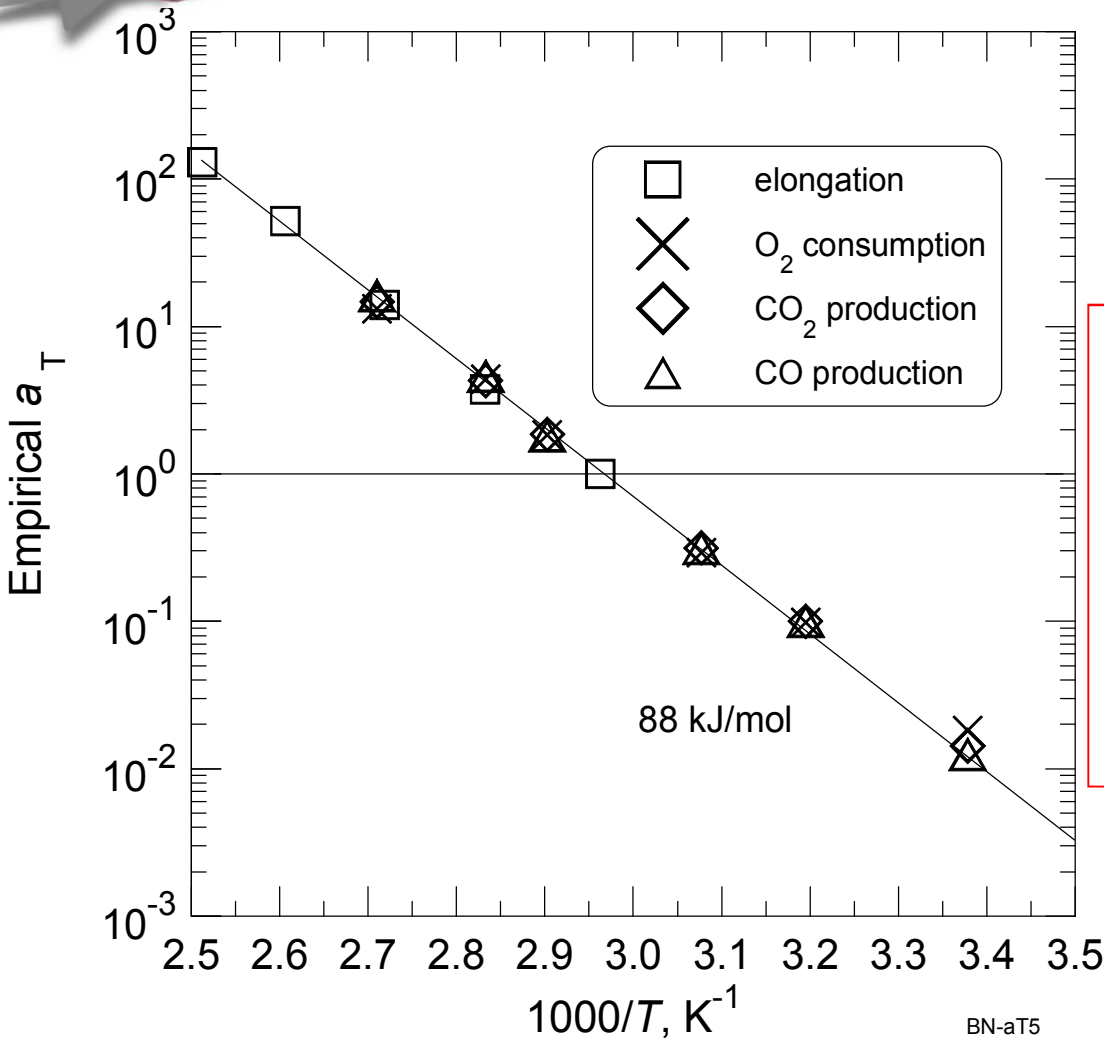
Integrated O₂ consumption



t - T superposition of integrated consumption



Compare shift factors of elongation and UOC



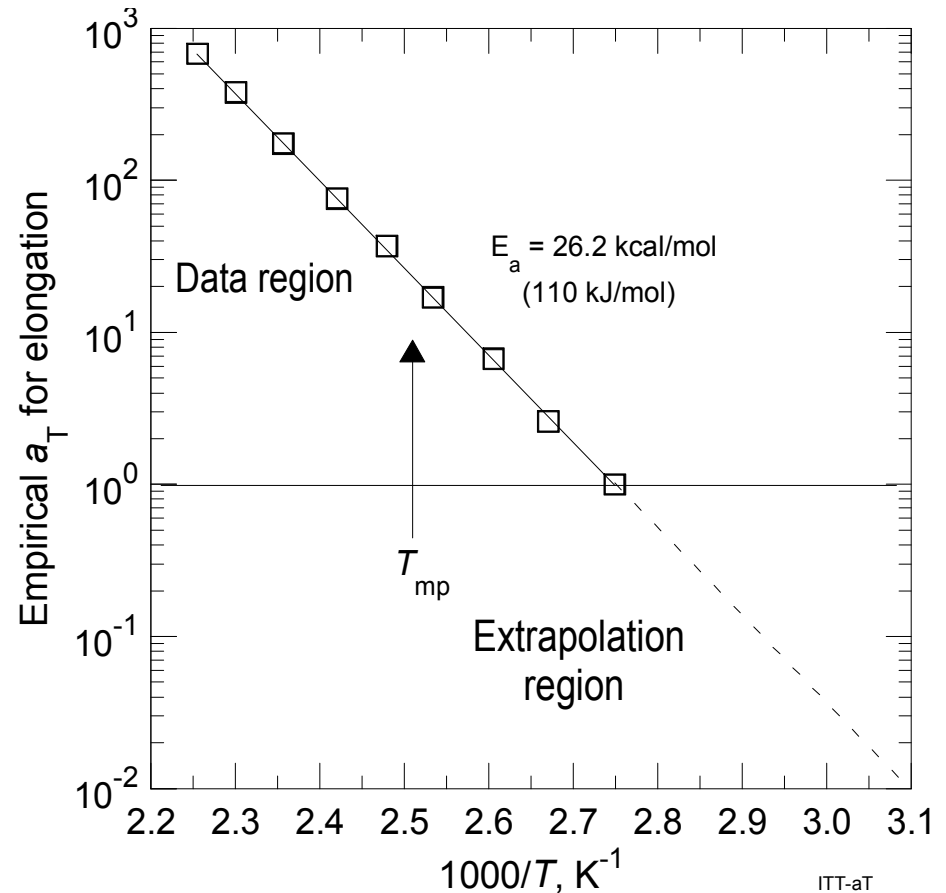
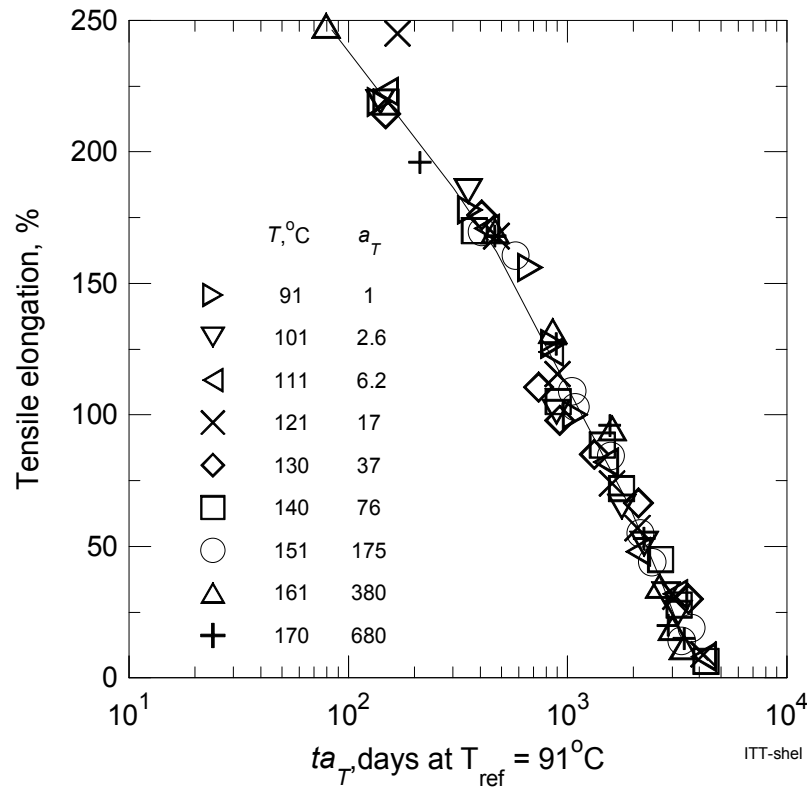
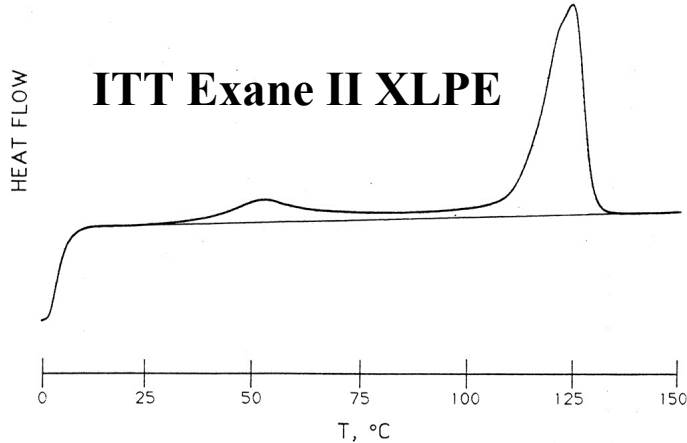
Arrhenius behavior confirmed
for nitrile rubber material

Note: CO_2 and CO production
rates have same E_a as O_2
consumption

- Same E_a in overlap region confirming connection of UOC & elongation
- UOC finds same E_a below 65°C confirming Arrhenius extrapolation assumption

Elongation- semi-crystalline material through T_{mp}

(Reference- Gillen, Assink & Bernstein- SAND Report 2005-7331)



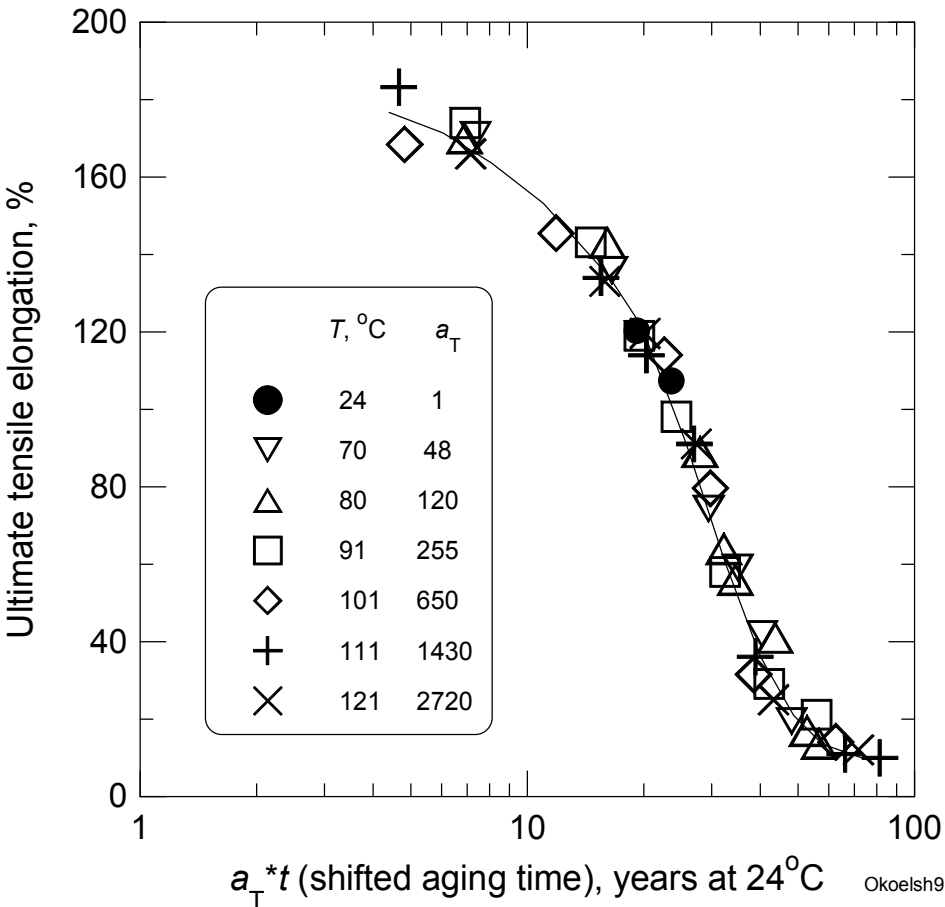
Find excellent superposition for data above and below main melting region

Find constant Arrhenius slope through transition region

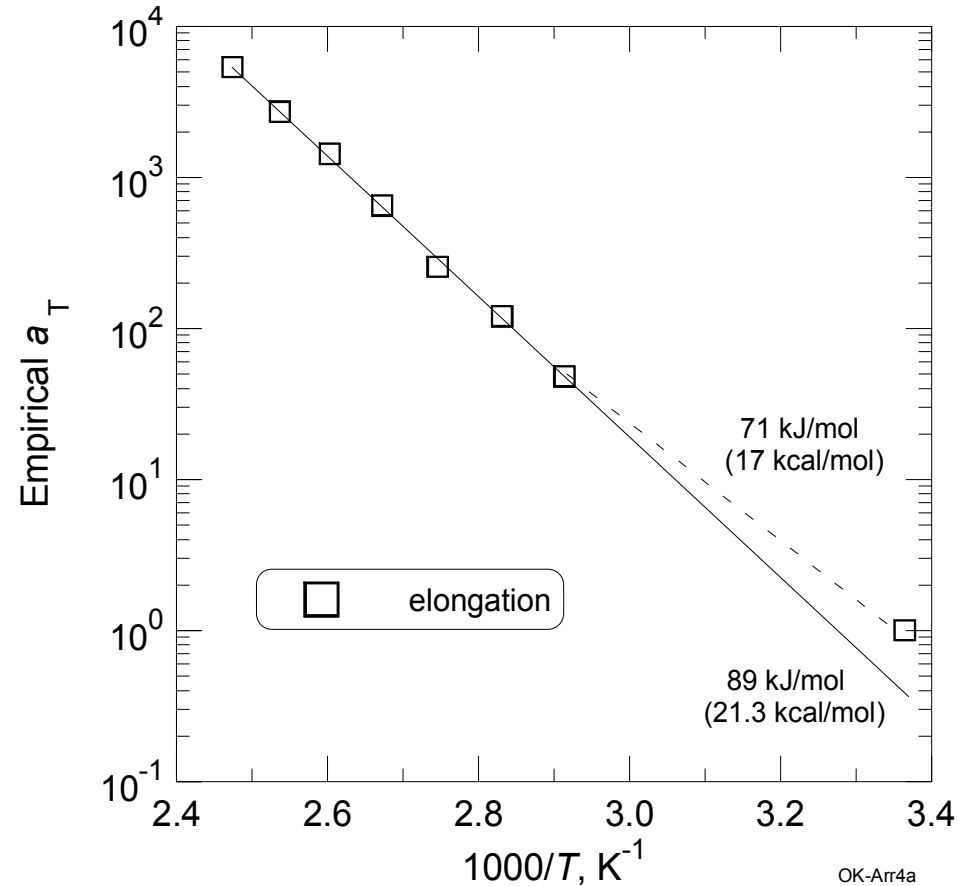
Non-Arrhenius evidence for chloroprene materials

Have 19-23 year data at 24 °C for Okonite neoprene

t - T superposition with 24°C reference T



Non-Arrhenius elongation results

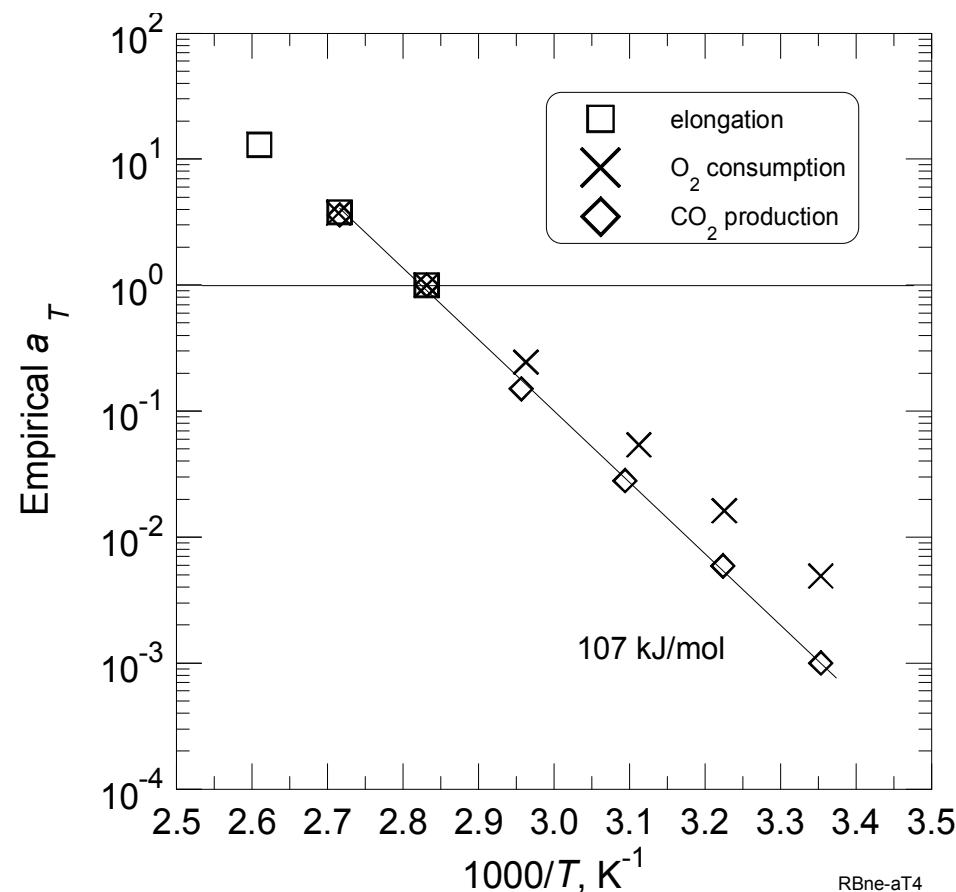
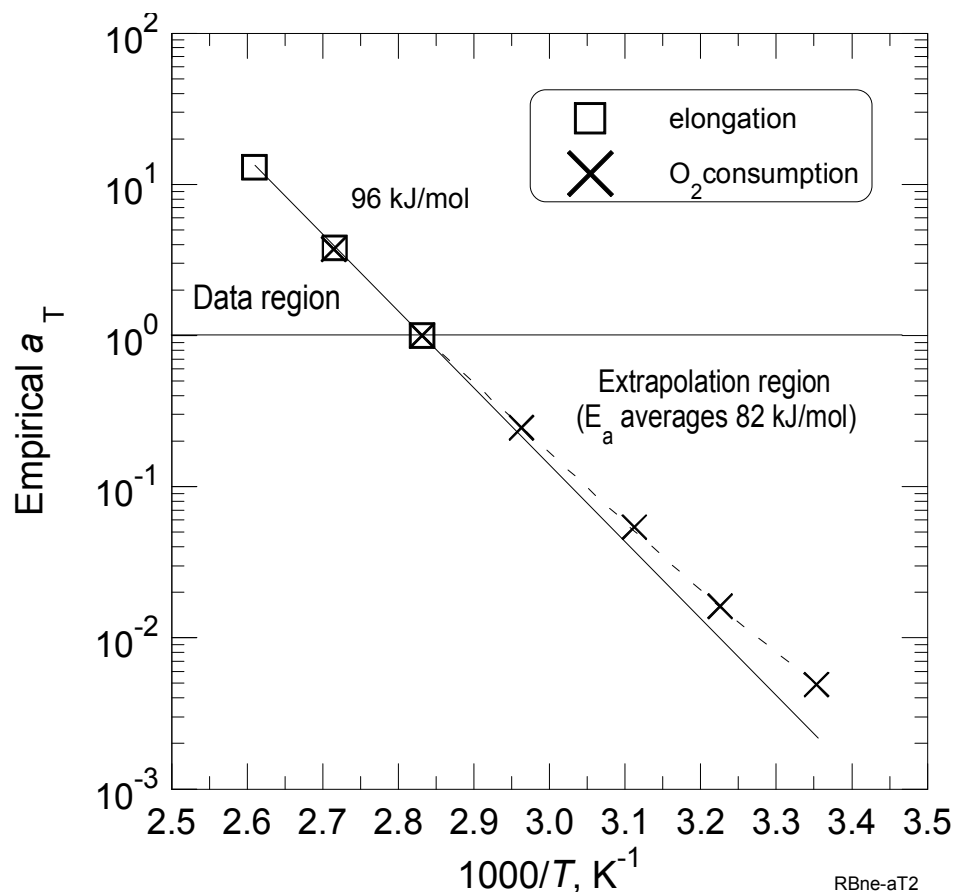


Note- room temperature lifetime reduced by ~60%

Non-Arrhenius for O₂ consumption of 2nd neoprene

Rockbestos neoprene cable jacket-evidence from UOC results

CO₂ production rates included on plot-imply degradation mechanism changes

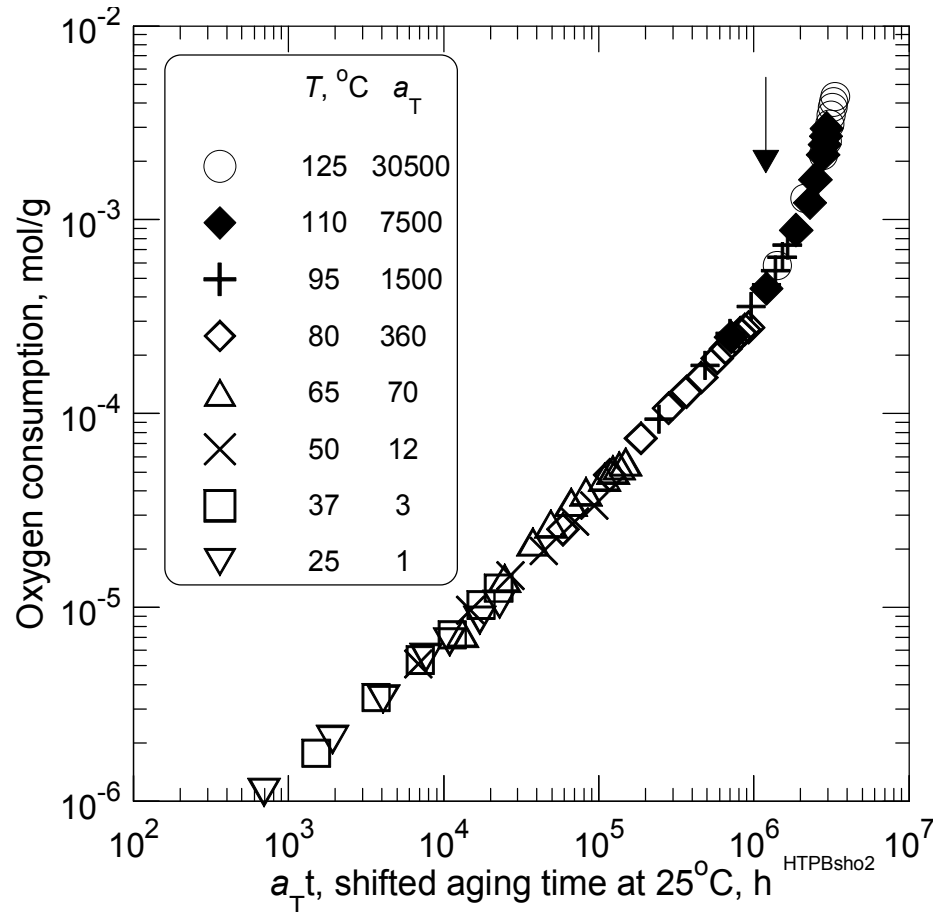


Room temperature lifetime reduced by ~60%

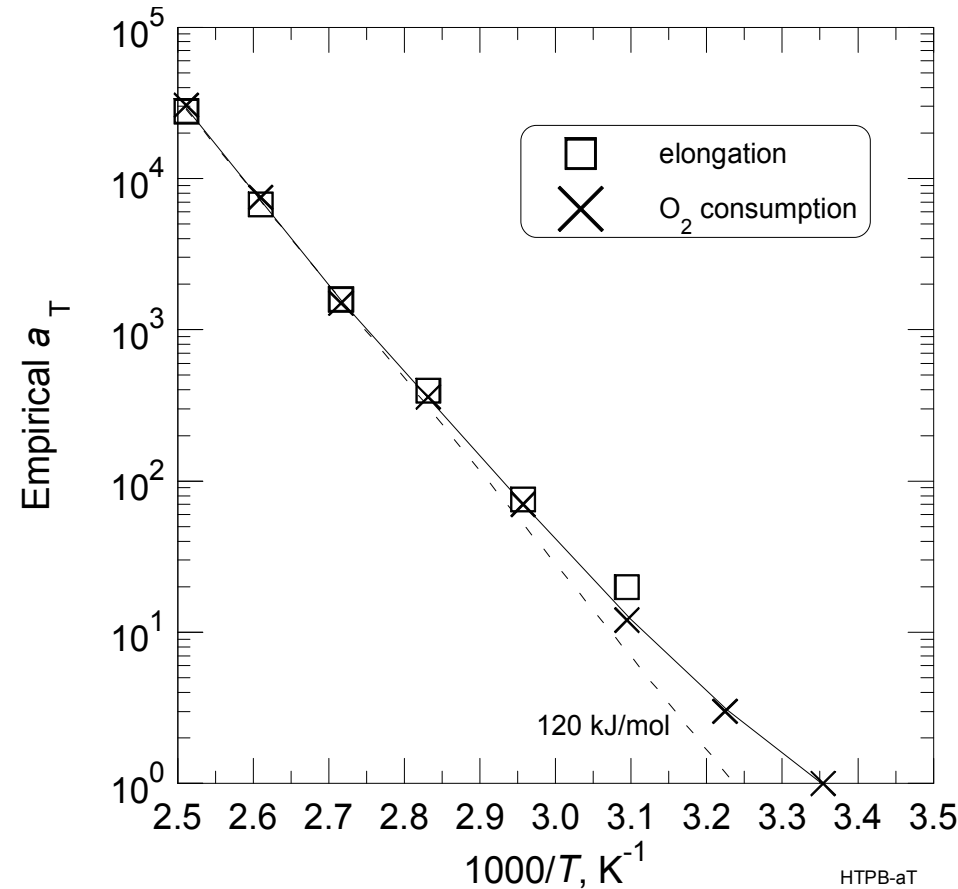
HTPB/IPDI based polyurethane rubber

Ref.- Celina, Graham, Gillen, Assink and Minier, Rubber Chem. Technol., 73, 678 (2000).

***t-T* superposed O₂ consumption results down to room temperature**



Non-Arrhenius for both UOC and elongation results

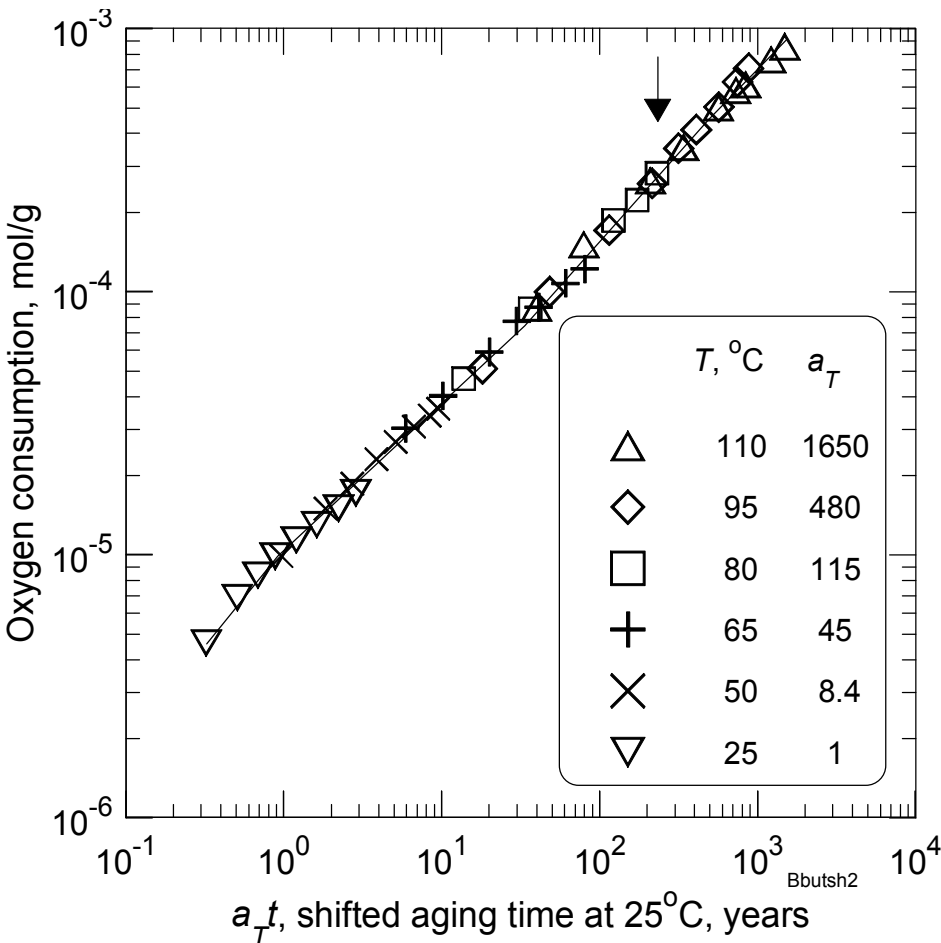


Note- room temperature lifetimes reduced by ~85%

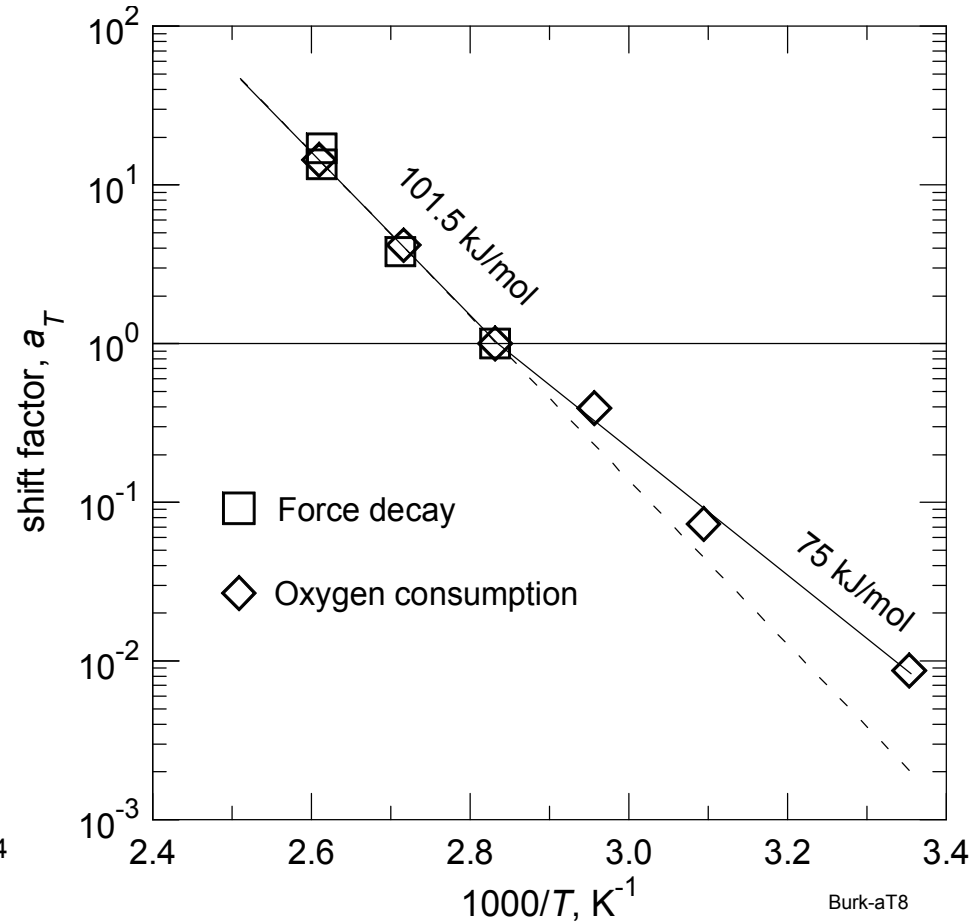
Burke butyl o-ring seal material

Ref.- Gillen, Celina and Bernstein, Polym. Degrad. Stabil., 82, 25 (2003).

**t - T superposed O_2 consumption
results down to room temperature**



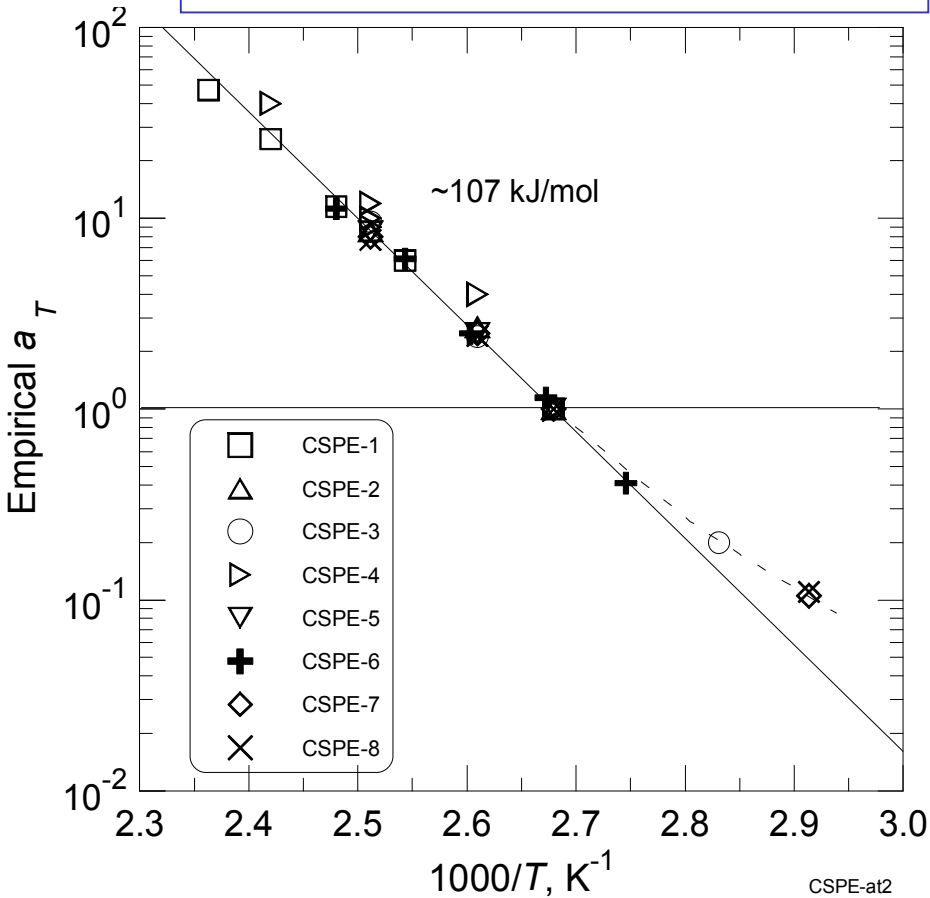
**UOC indicates a change in E_a in
extrapolation regime**



Note- room temperature lifetimes reduced by ~82%

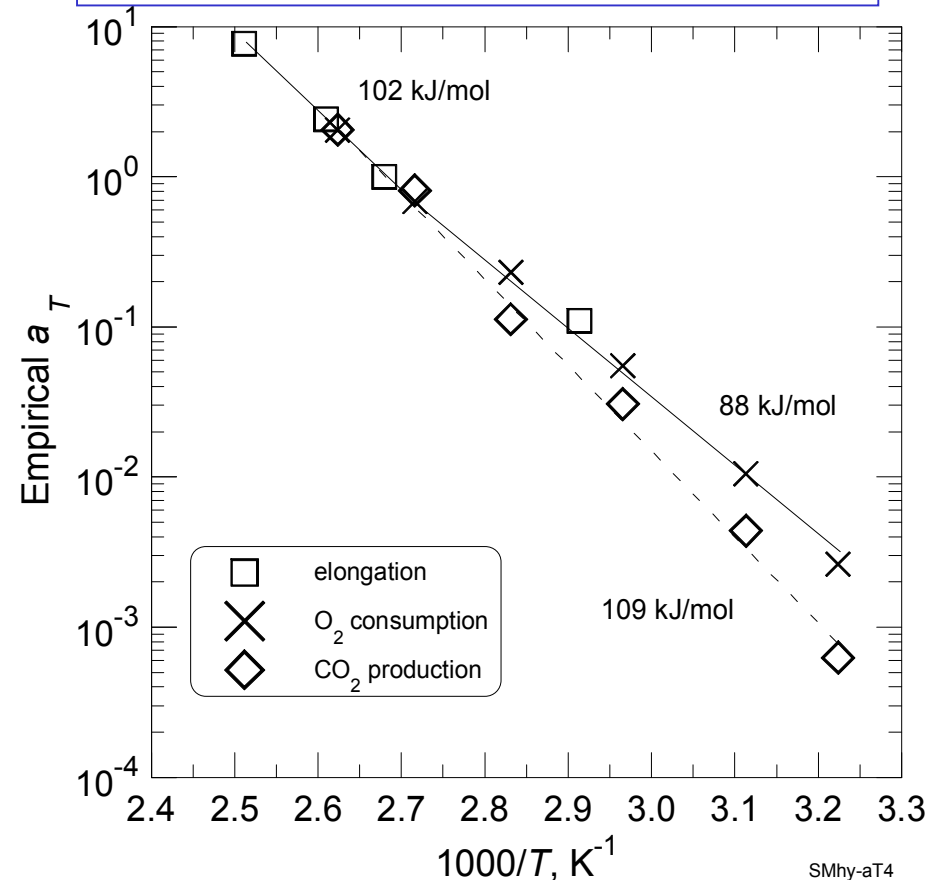
Arrhenius plots for chlorosulfonated PE materials

Elongation for 8 different CSPEs



- Similar E_a values at high T s
- Evidence for curvature to lower E_a values at low temperature

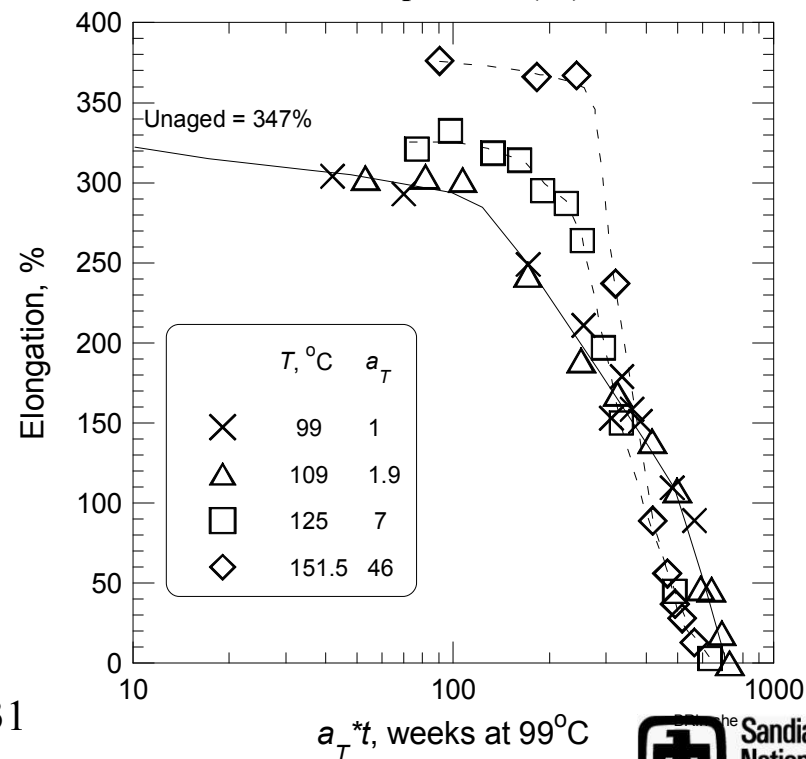
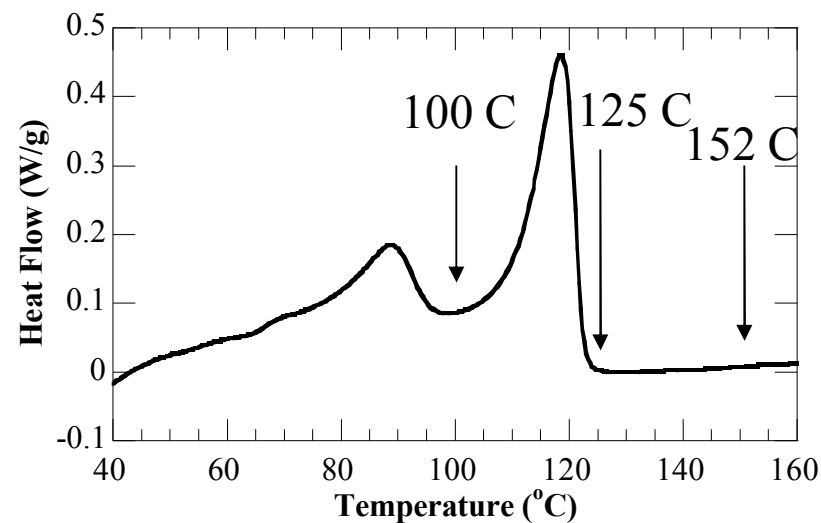
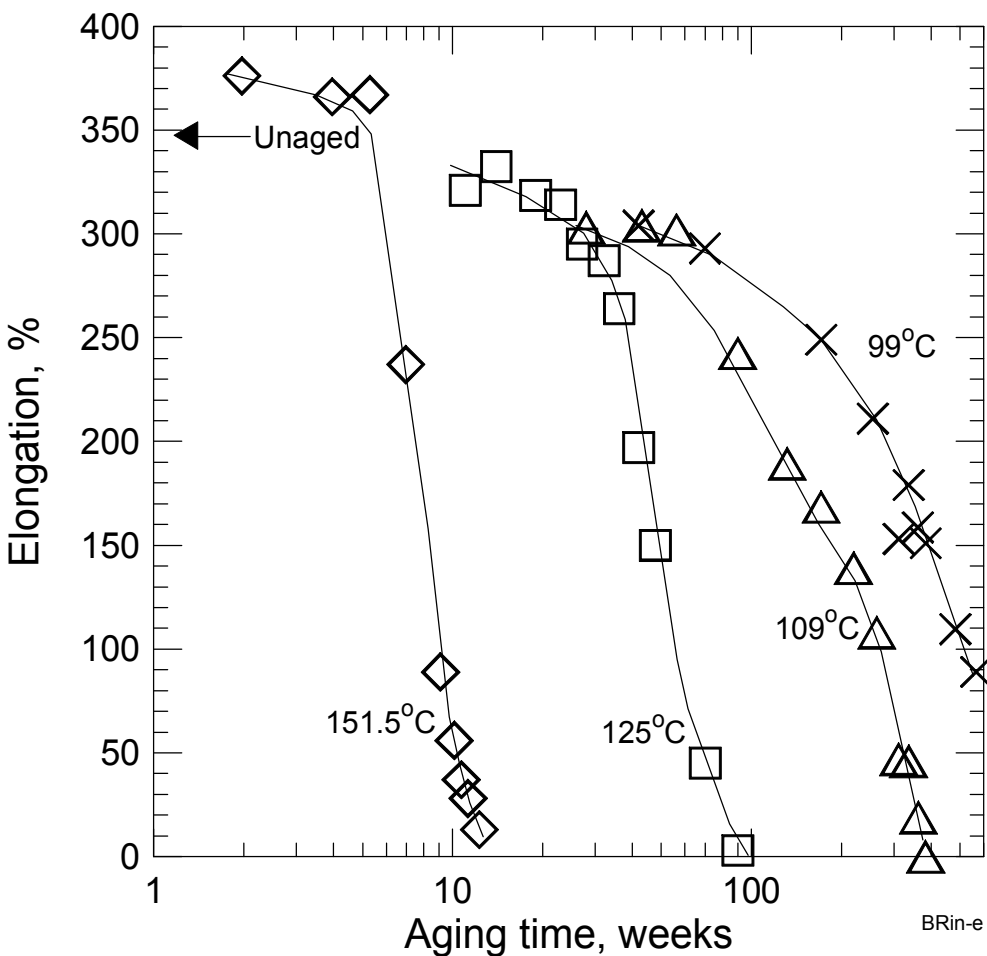
O₂ & CO₂ for Samuel Moore CSPE



- Curvature of UOC consistent with curvature of elongation results
- CO₂ production has higher E_a

Effect of taking data thru T_{mp} point region- examples of non-superposition

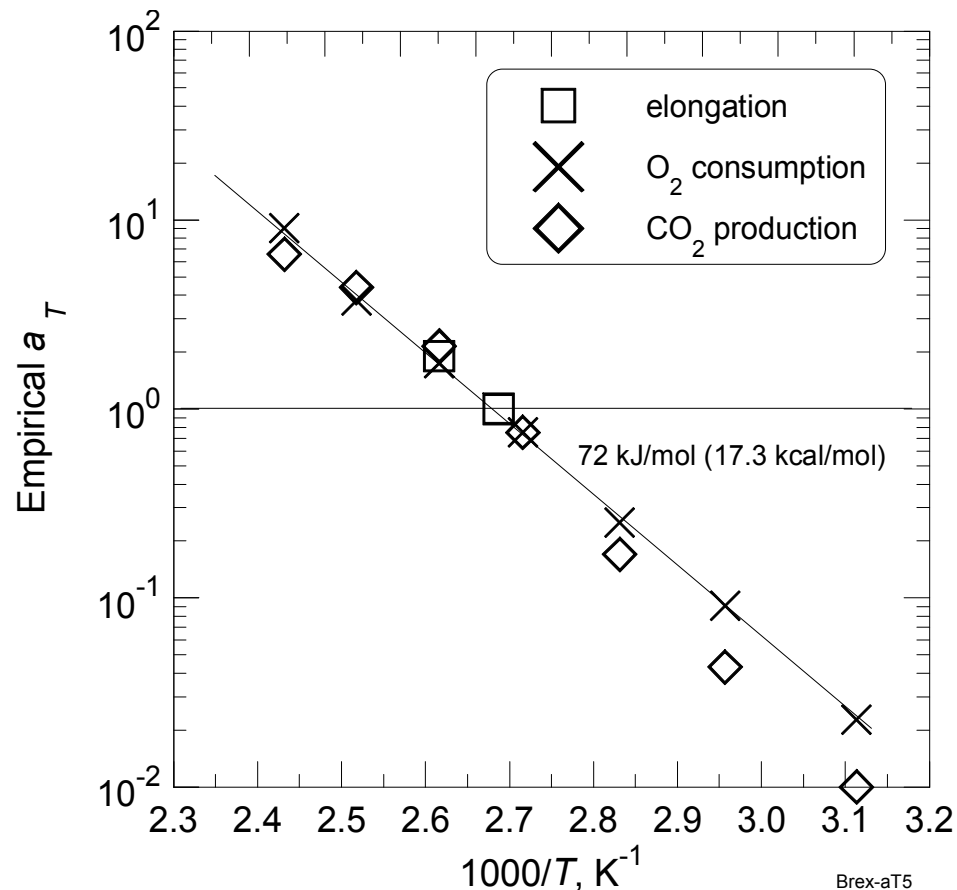
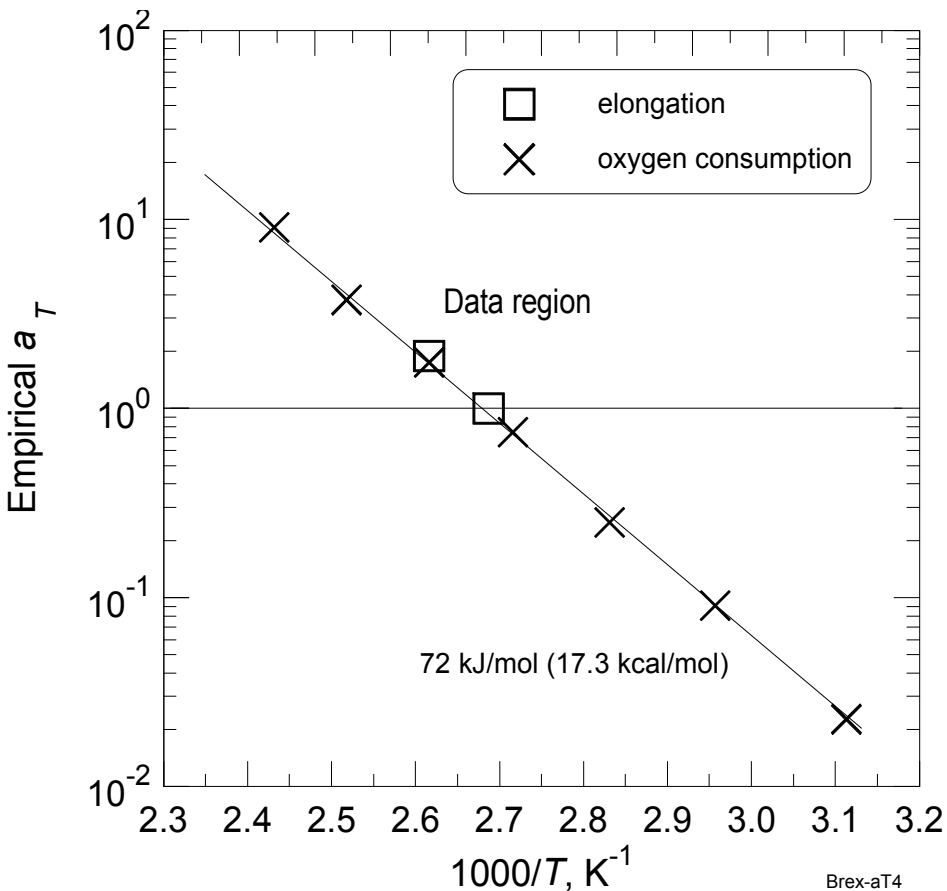
Brandrex CLPO insulation



Non-superposition implies chemistry changes above T_{mp}

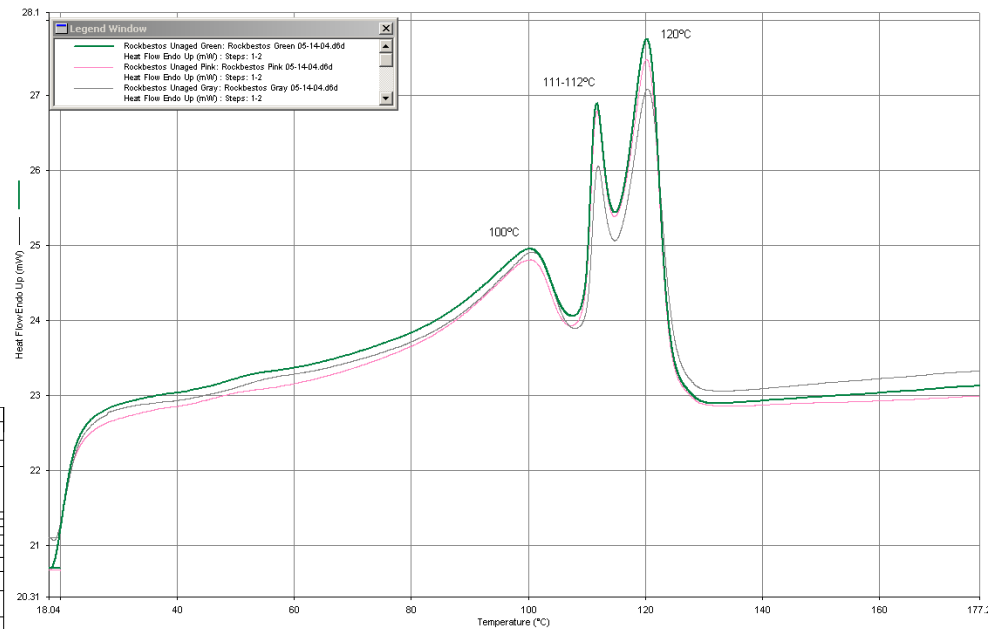
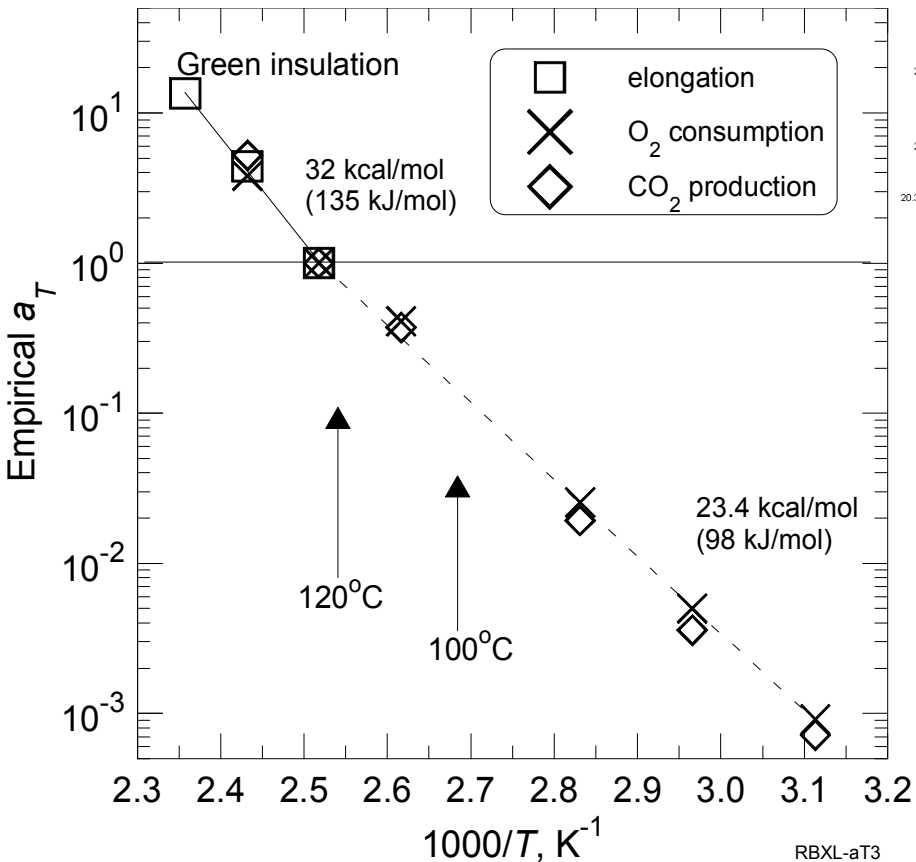
E_a for elongation at 99°C & 109°C is consistent with O₂ consumption results but overlap region small

E_a for CO₂ is slightly higher indicating some changes in the oxidation chemistry are also occurring below main melting peak



UOC for Rockbestos CLPO

Complex melting region- peaks at 100°C, 110°C and 120°C



Elongation results at 125°C and higher (totally melted) give $E_a = 135$ kJ/mol (32 kcal/mol)

Oxygen consumption & CO₂ production give $E_a \sim 135$ kJ/mol above 125°C and ~ 98 kJ/mol below this temperature

Conclusion- chemistry changes below T_{mp}



CONCLUSIONS

- Evidence for chemical changes with temperature change for many materials
- As expected, extrapolating through crystalline melting point region entails major risks
- Wherever possible, data should be taken over an extended temperature range in order to maximize data range and minimize extrapolation distance
- Oxygen consumption approach is one way to achieve this goal for air-aged materials
- E_a usually drops as aging temperature is lowered implying high-temperature extrapolations will often overestimate material lifetimes