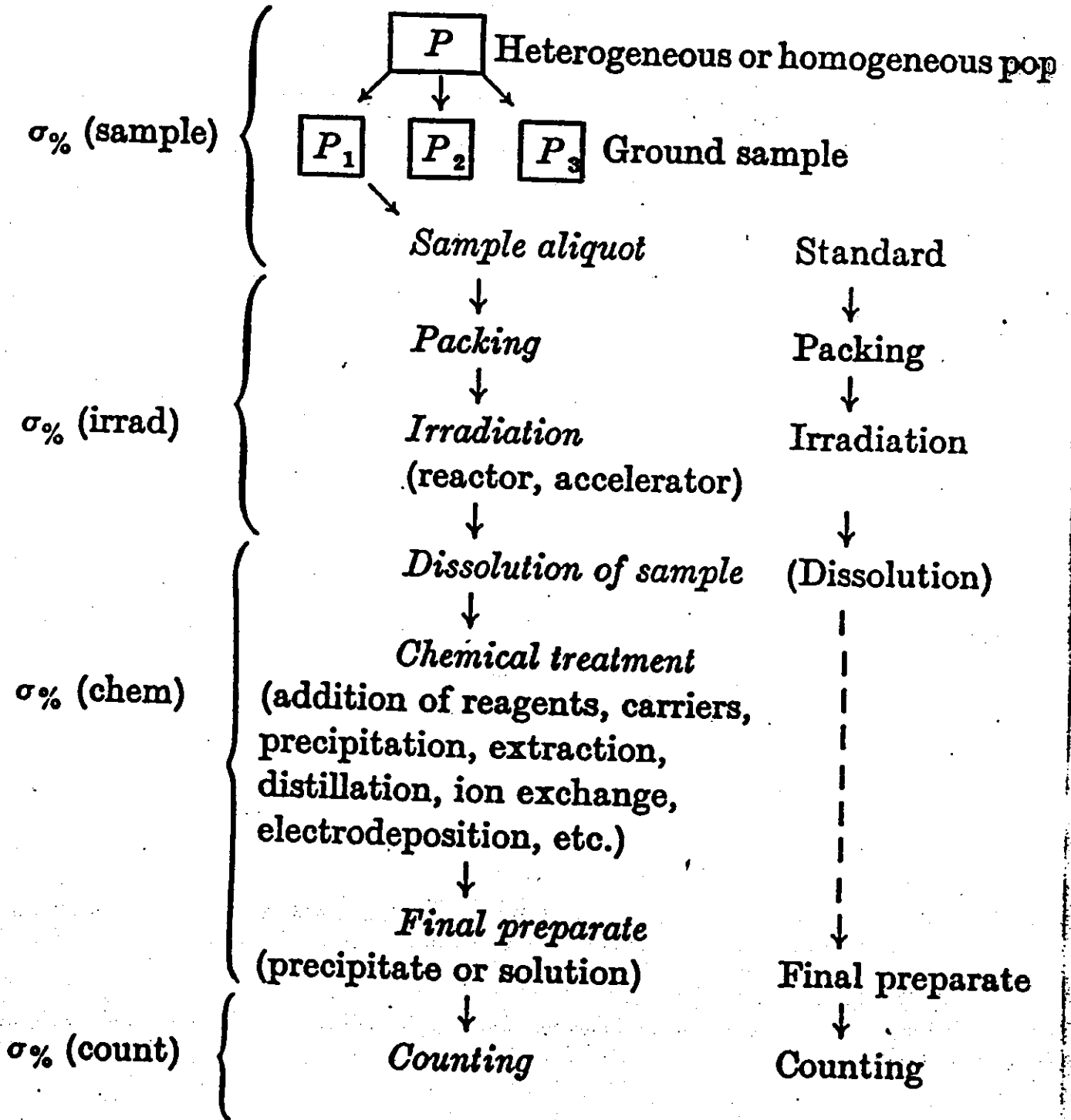


Assume that an activation analysis is carried out as scheme represented below:



10 SOURCES OF ERRORS IN NAA

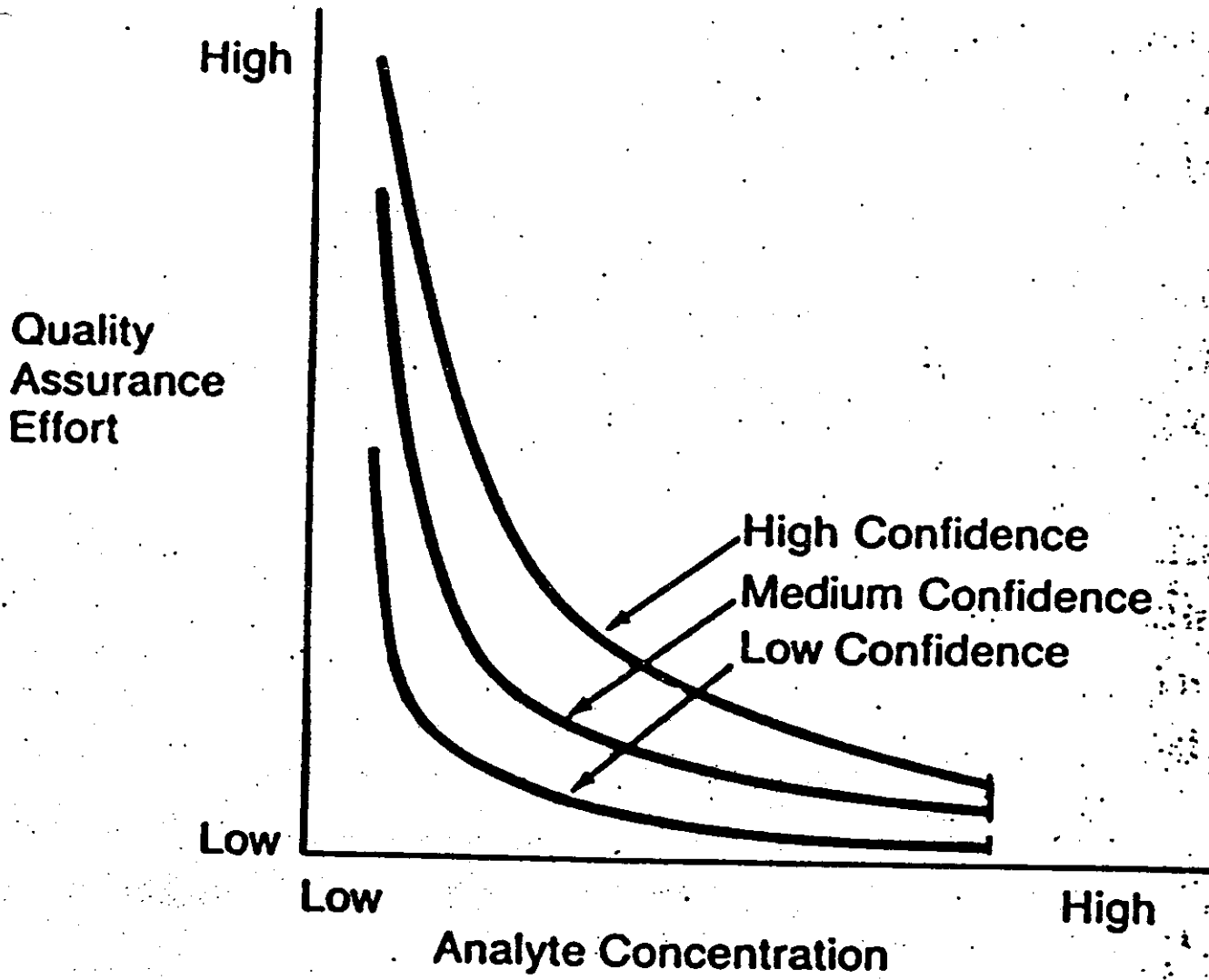


Figure 1. Qualitative relationship of confidence, concentration, and quality assurance effort. The quality assurance effort increases at a rapid rate as the need for higher confidence increases and the analyte concentration decreases. Eventually a point is reached where the quality assurance effort increases rapidly as lower analyte concentration is approached and also where further quality assurance effort yields diminishing returns with increasing confidence.

W.1

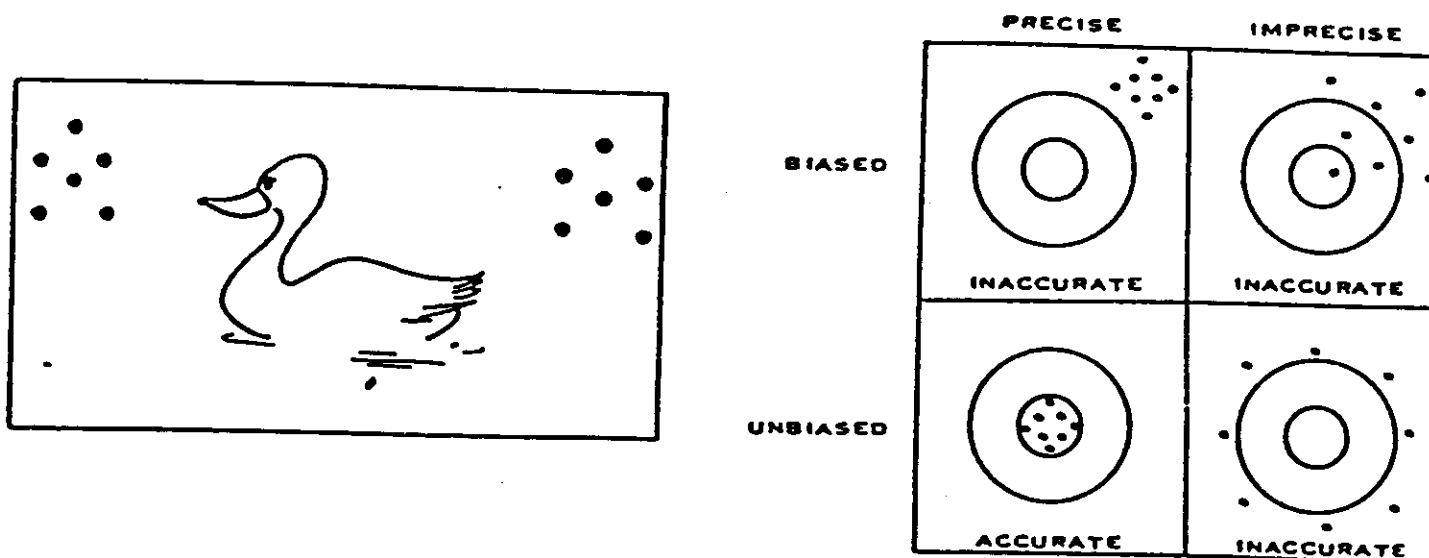


Figure 5.14 (a) "On an average the duck was dead." A hunter fired both barrels of a shotgun at a duck. The first hit 2 ft in front, the second hit 2 ft behind. On an average the duck was dead. What the hunter really wanted was meat on the table. In duck hunting one must keep trying until a single shot hits the mark, but in estimating the activity of a radioactive source the best estimate is usually the average. [Adapted from G. D. Chase and J. L. Rabinowitz, *Principles of Radioisotope Methodology* (Burgess, Minneapolis, 1962).]

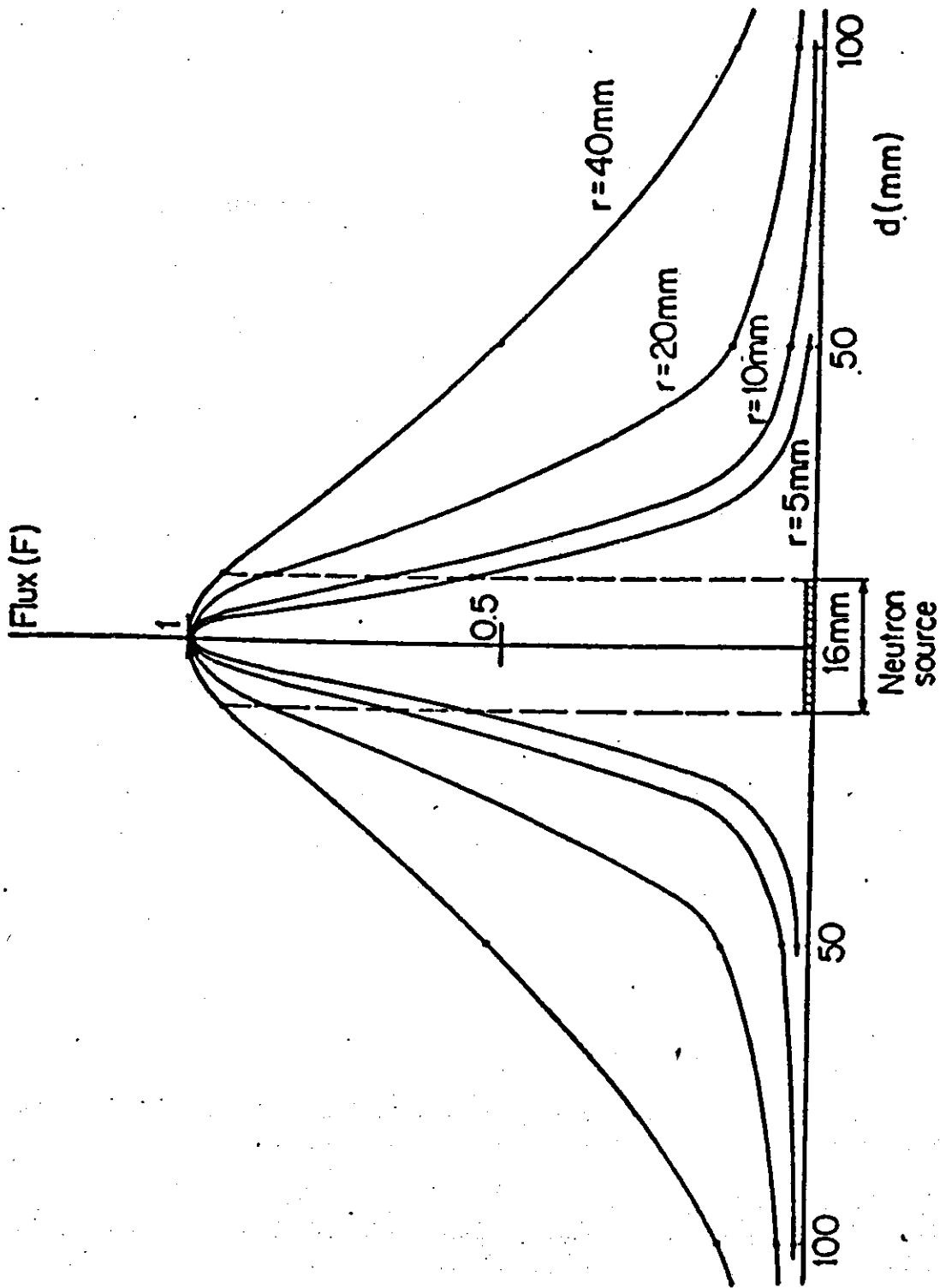


Fig. 10.3. Fast neutron flux pattern for a 14 MeV neutron generator: Transversal flux distribution (20).

ϕ = unperturbed flux

ϕ_{sf} = average flux over the sample surface

ϕ_{av} = average flux inside the sample

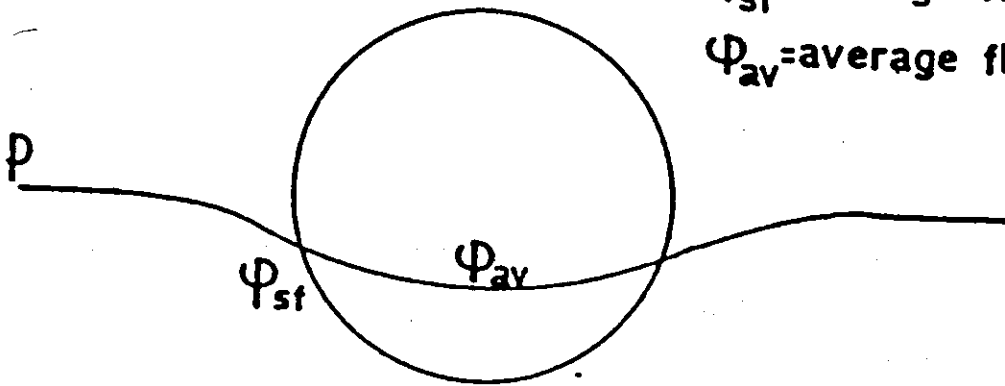


Fig. 10.6. Flux perturbation, flux depression and self-absorption.

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NEUTRON ACTIVATION ANALYSIS

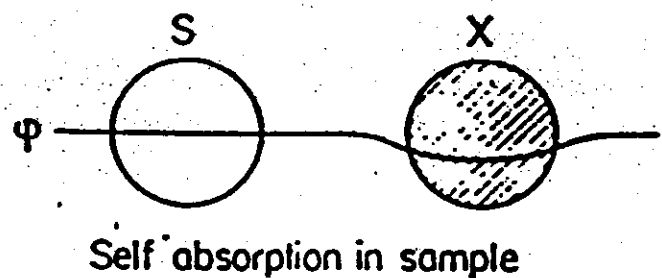
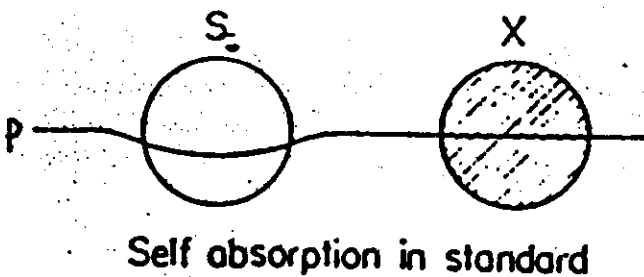
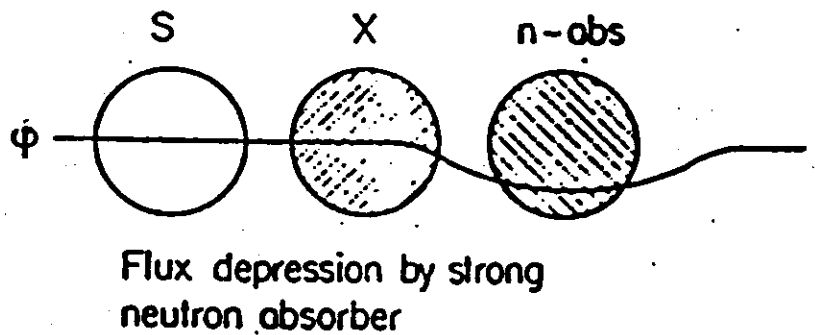
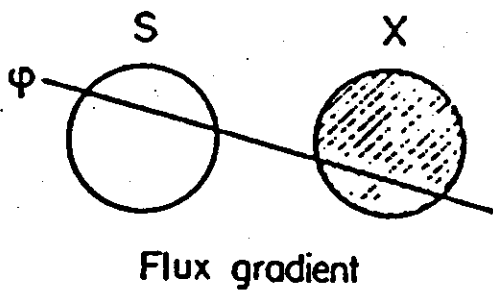


Fig. 10.5. Neutron flux differences in standards and samples.

10.26

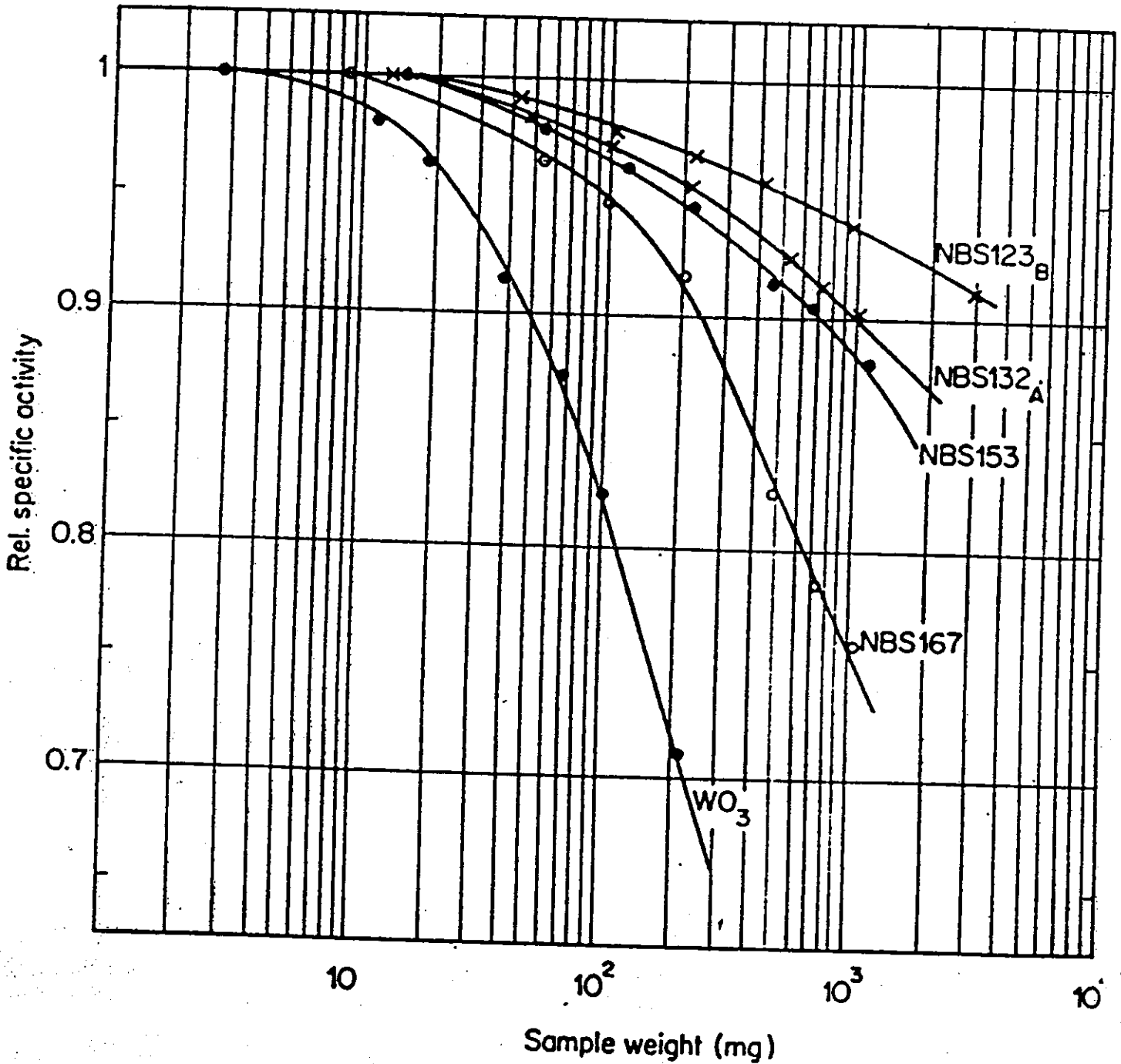


Fig. 10.7. Influence of sample size on the neutron self-shielding (48).

10.26

Activation Analysis: Limitations

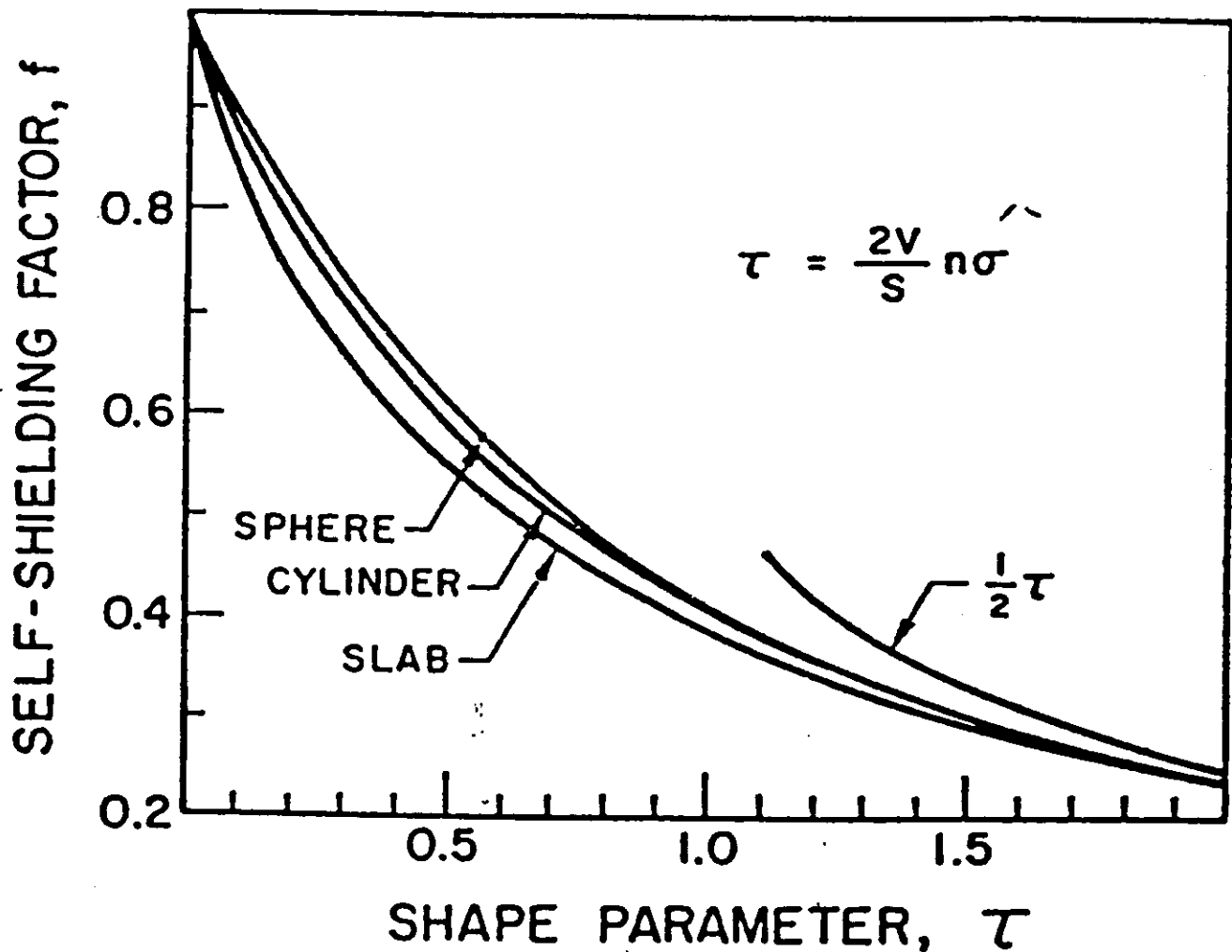


Figure 8.2 Neutron self-shielding factors for infinite slabs, cylinders, and spheres. [From P. F. Zweifel, Neutron Self-Shielding, *Nucleonics* 18, No. 11, 174–175 (1960).]

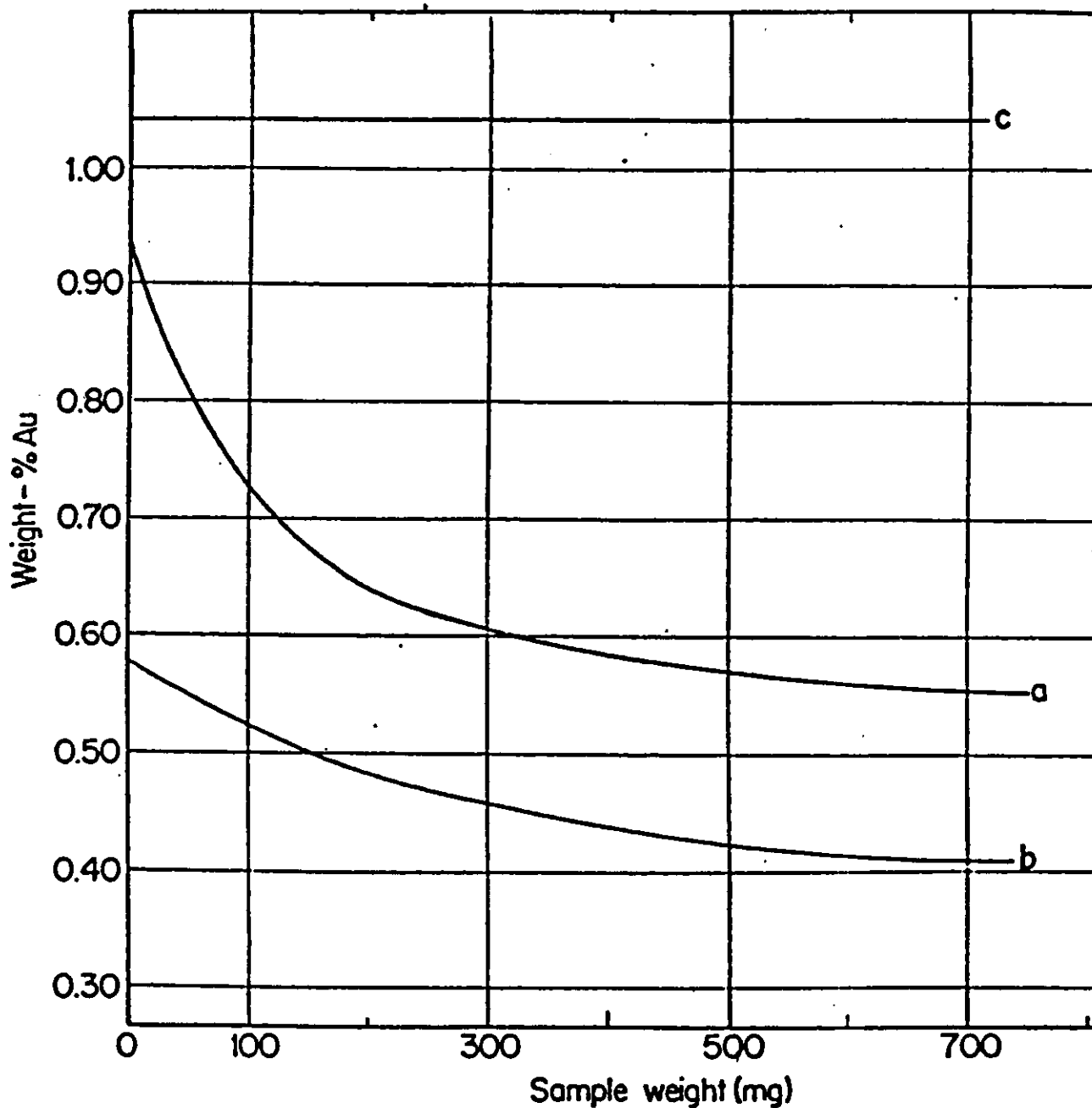


Fig. 10.9. Concentration of Au in Ag-spheres. (a) without correction for absorption effects ($CR = 11,400$), (b) without correcting for absorption ($CR = 2.6$), (c) after correction for absorption effects (see Table 10.6)

10.2b

Basic reaction

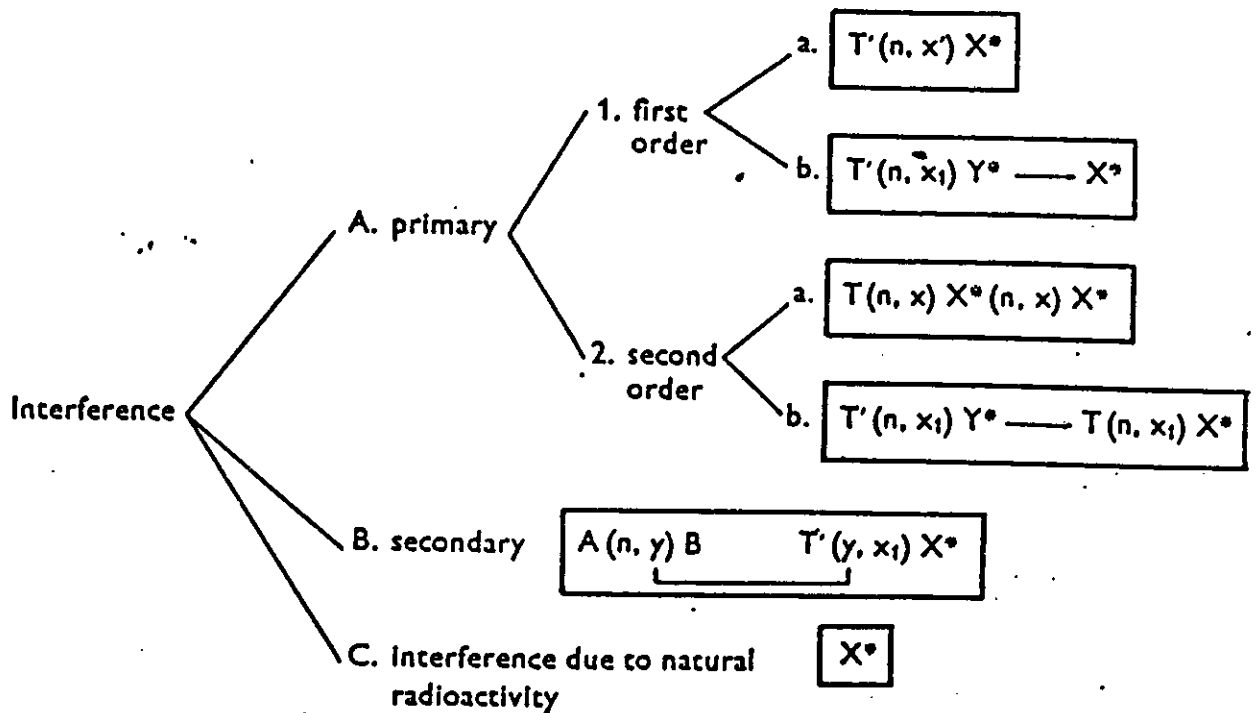
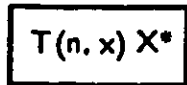


Fig. 30 — Scheme of different interferences in neutron activation analysis. $x = \gamma, p, \alpha, 2n, f$ etc., x' — different from x in basic reaction, x_1 — may be the same as or different from x in basic reaction, y — usually proton, r = radioactive decay β^- , β^+ , EC, X^* = arbitrary radionuclide of element X , T = target nucleus in basic reaction, T' = target nucleus different from T , Y^* = radionuclide of an element different from X

10.2e

Activation Analysis: Limitations

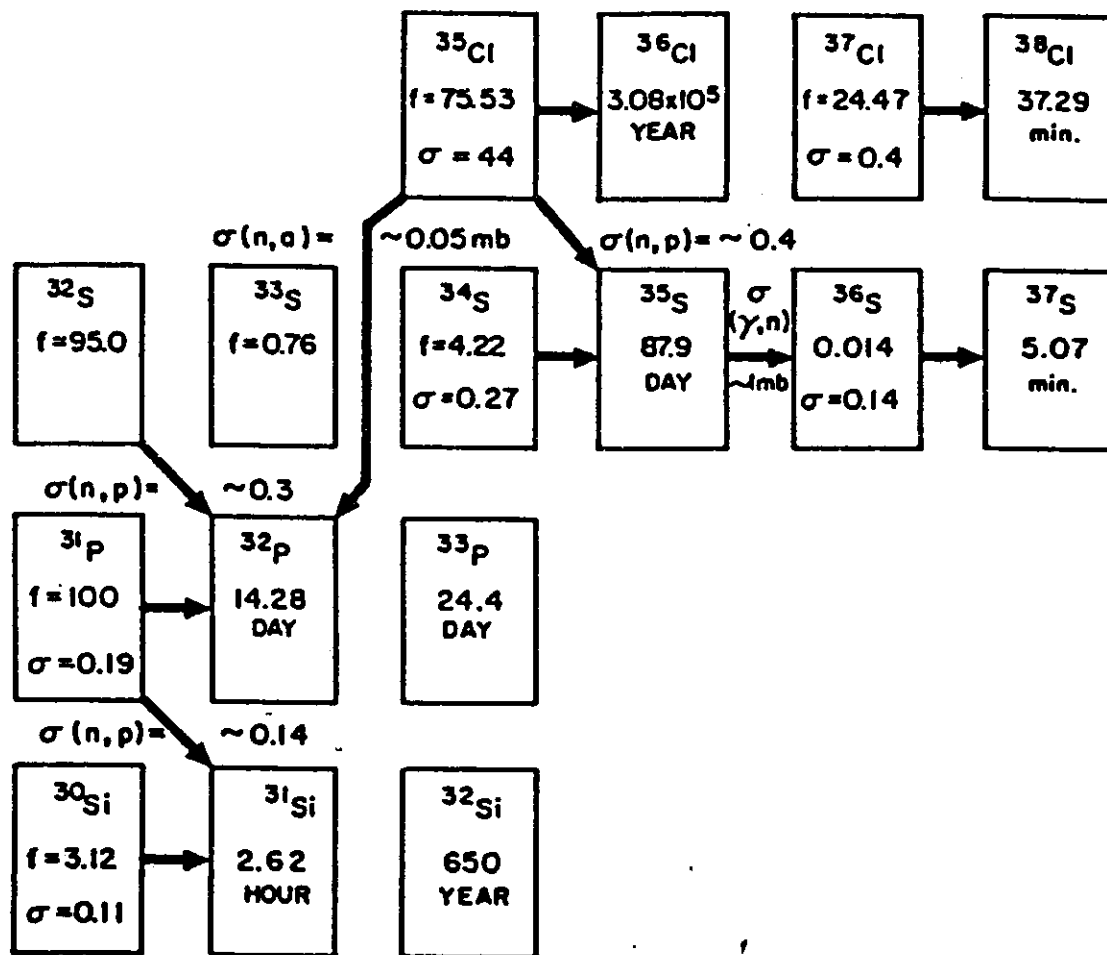


Figure 8.1 Nuclear data for the activation of silicon, phosphorous, sulfur, or chlorine. The stable isotopes list the isotopic abundance in percent and the neutron capture cross section in barns. The radioactive isotopes list the half-life

10.2e

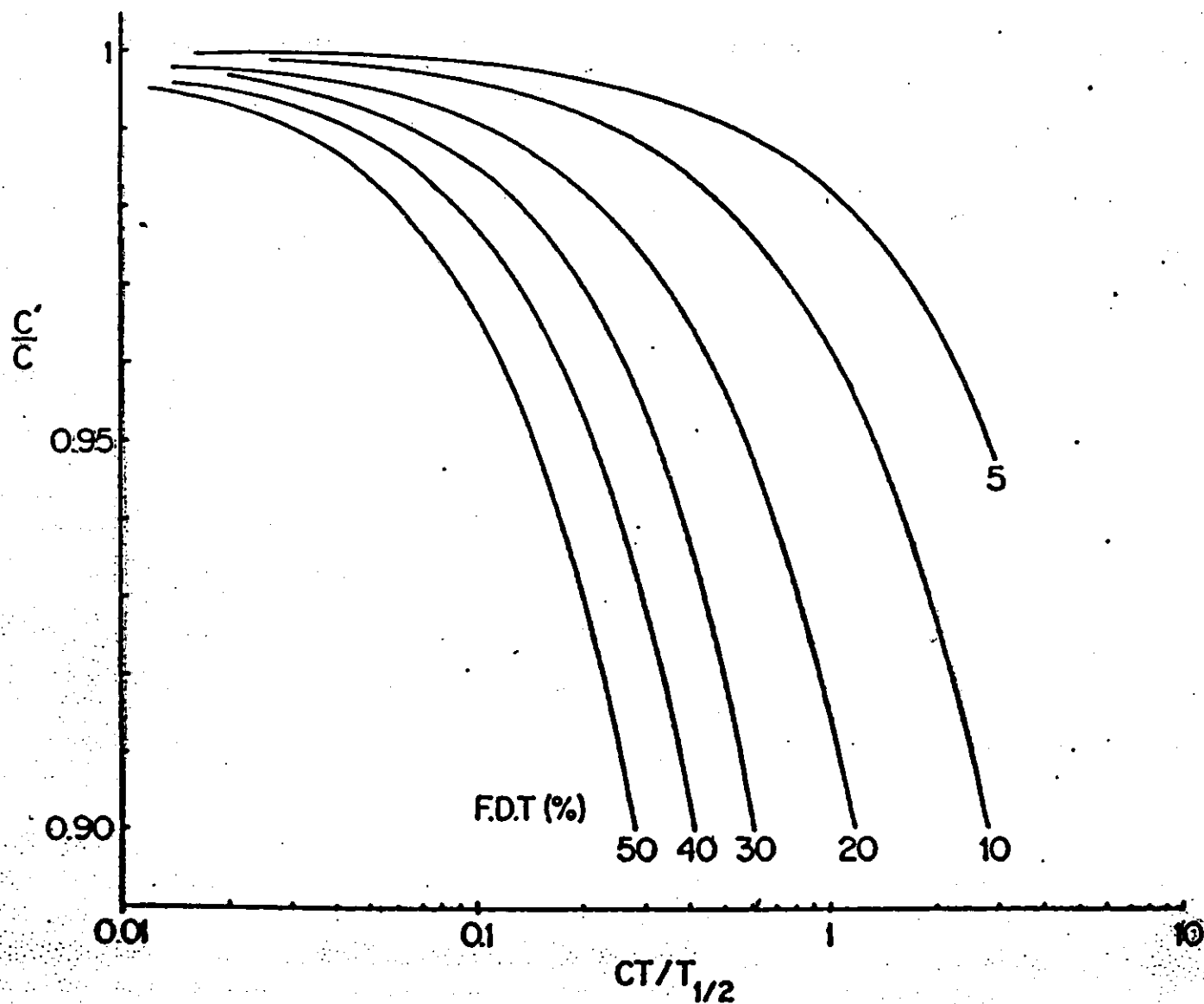
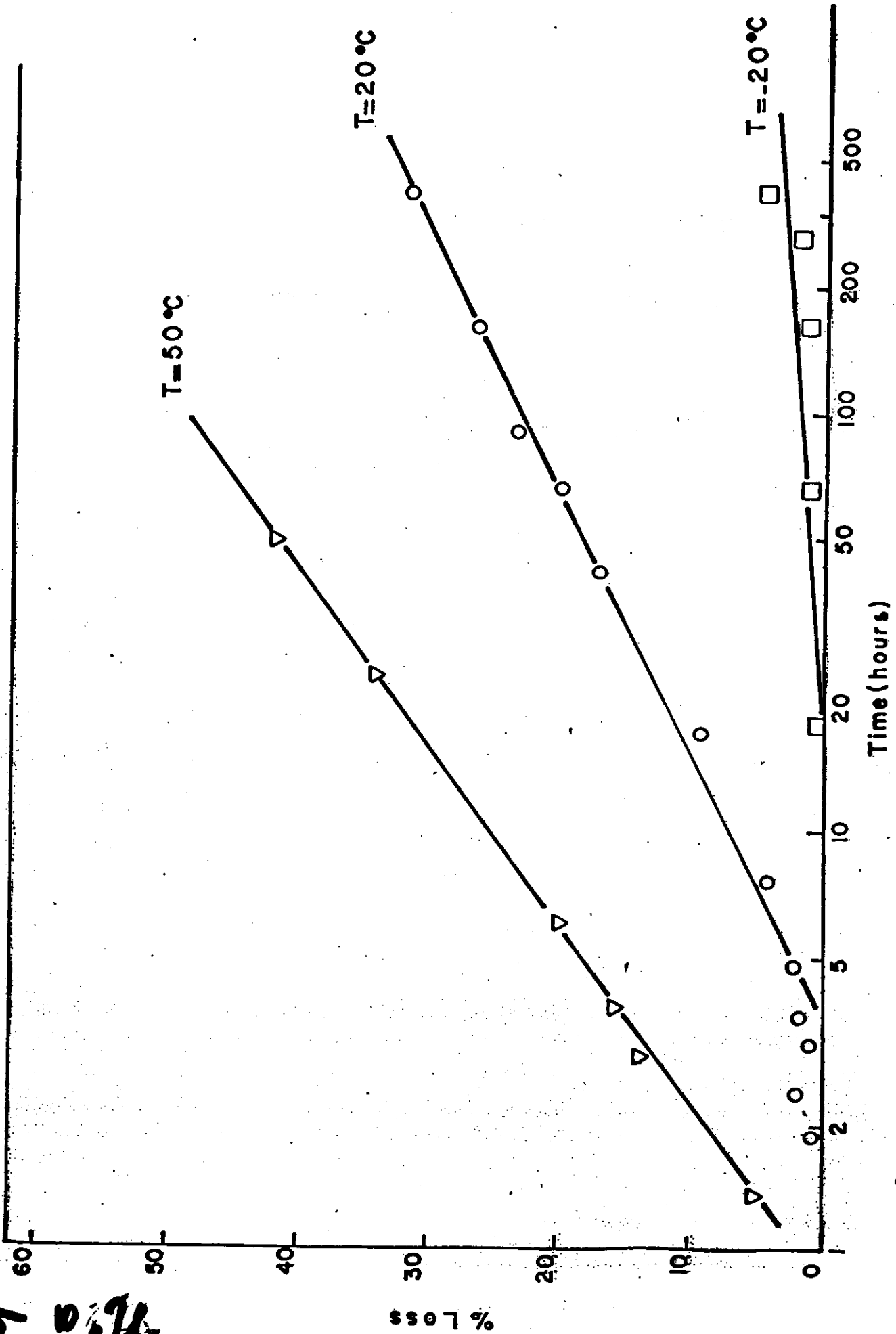


Fig. 10.11. Ratio of the observed number of counts (c') to true number of counts (c) as a function of $CT/T_{1/2}$ when using the life-time mode of counting. FDT = fractional dead-time (RR).

10.2e

DIFFUSION OF ACTIVATED MURRY IN AN IRRADIATED PETROLEUM SAMPLE

9 0.72



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