

## MATHEMATICAL MODELING OF THE PROCESS OF CEMENTATION OF THE LEAD ACETATE SOLUTION WITH IRON

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*În lucrare sunt prezentate rezultatele modelării matematice a procesului de cementare a plumbului din soluții de acetat de plumb, obținute prin prelucrarea deșeurilor sulfato-oxidice din acumulatori plumb-acid scoși din uz. Folosind un program activ de cercetare și anume un program ortogonal de ordinul doi (PO2), s-au stabilit condițiile optime de desfășurare a procesului care să conducă la obținerea unui randament maxim de extracție a plumbului.*

*The paper presents the results of a mathematical modeling of the process of cementation of lead in lead acetate solution, obtained by processing waste sulfato-oxide of lead-acid batteries removed from service. Using an active research program and a program that is orthogonal of order two (PO2), optimal conditions were established to conduct the process leading to obtaining of a maximum yield of extraction of lead.*

**Keywords:** mathematical modeling, recycle batteries, lead

### 1. Introduction

In an effort to comply with regulations, namely that the product will be treated in a manner that provides the highest level of safety, a *vision of green lead* that emphasizes the need to follow sustainable industry lead-acid batteries [1] is on the work to be developed. Increased demand for lead-acid batteries due to the increasing number of vehicles with more stringent environmental regulations, has created the need to move, upgrade and reconvert both production processes and recycling of lead batteries in order to minimize their environmental impact. Currently, recovery of lead from exhausted lead-acid batteries is done by a thermal method, causing environmental problems due to emissions of lead particulates and sulfur dioxide [2]. Because laws becoming more stringent for these types of emissions, there was a large research effort to find a hydrometallurgical method to replace the procedures for lead-acid battery recycling [3]. In particular, electro-hydrometallurgical method of recovering metallic lead has been extensively studied and in this direction several pilot plants

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were designed. Lead electrolytic extraction techniques take place either in acidic or alkaline environments applied as yet fail to overcome many technological problems or to prevent the formation of the passive lead dioxide anode [1.4]. Recovery of lead from lead hydroxide can be done through a two stage process (leaching and cementation in separate procedure) or one step procedure (leaching and cementation in a single proceeding). Cementation benefits include: high efficiency of the process, almost complete removal or detoxification of heavy metals, high speed process, simplicity of treatment facilities, reclamation of metals in pure metallic form and relative absence of sludge. If you use cheap scrap metal the costs of the functional processes can be maintained at a low level. Most of the industrial processes of cementing are using metal powder in the reactor agitator in the tank. Major interests are: low power requirements, ability of easily control, products obtained in the form of metal.

## 2. Experimental data

In a single step procedure (solubilization + cementation), all reagents were loaded into the reactor simultaneously, in the working conditions listed in Table 1.

*Table 1*

**Workload and working conditions for cement pastes using lead batteries, remove from service**

Load	Quantity	Working conditions
Pb(OH) <sub>2</sub> Urea Acetic Acid	70 g (0,2904 mol/l Pb) 8,33 mol/l 2,8668 mol/l	Temperature: 50,60,70°C Response time: 2 h Molar ratio Fe/Pb: 1,3/1...1,9/1 d <sub>m</sub> = -1mm Stirring: 100 rpm

All reaction steps were performed in a reaction carried out in a Pyrex flask of 500 ml double necked round base equipped with a condenser to condense the vapor released. During the reaction the solution was stirred with a magnetic stirrer at about 100 rpm and heated in a thermostatic bath. In a single step procedure, compounds of lead and iron were added simultaneously to the reactor and the reaction progress was monitored from time to time by atomic absorption spectroscopic analysis of samples of the solution. Lead hardened, together with unreacted iron were collected, rinsed with distilled water and dried.

Studies and preliminary investigations revealed the following parameters which have a significant influence on process performance (*yield of extraction - y*): *temperature (z1)*, *the process (z3)* and *the molar ratio of Fe / Pb (z2)*, the other parameters - *solution concentration acetate (M)*, *reducing the average diameter of*

particles ( $dm$ ) and stirring speed ( $rpm$ ), who have not a significant influence, are maintained at constant values.

### 3. Mathematical modeling

To determine the optimal conditions for conducting the oxidation process a program of active experimentation, namely an orthogonal second-order program (PO2) was used. As indicated by Box and Wilson since 1951, such a program is obtained by adding a program for first-order type  $2^n$  EFC (EFC = full factorial experiment) with certain points of the factorial space.

It follows

$$N = N_c + N_\alpha + N_0 \quad (1)$$

where:

- represents the total number of points in the program PO2;  $N_c$  - number of experiments in a  $EFC 2^n$  program ( $N_c = 2^n$ ) or in a  $EFF 2^{n-p}$  subprogram if  $n > 4$  ( $N_c = 2^{n-p}$ );  $N_\alpha$  - the number of so-called "star points" ( $N_\alpha = 2n$ );  $N_0$  - number of determinations in the heart of the program (or multiple parallel determinations) (was chosen  $N_0 = 5$ ).

As:  $n = 3$  we get :

$$N_c = 2^3 = 8, N_\alpha = 2 \cdot 3 = 6, N_0 = 5 \text{ and therefore } N = 19. \quad (2)$$

PO2 steps in designing the program were:

a) Based on the results obtained in previous experiences of the experiment the point of the factorial space coordinate:  $z_1^0 = 60^\circ C$ ;  $z_2^0 = 1.6$ ;  $z_3^0 = 90 \text{ min}$ , and sizes and ranges as:  $\Delta z_1 = 10^\circ C$ ,  $\Delta z_2 = 0.2$ ,  $\Delta z_3 = 20 \text{ min}$ , was chosen as a base.

b) With these values the size of the factors in the 8 points of  $2^3$  EFC program, were determined and further used in PO2, using equations:

$$z_i^{(-1)} = z_i^0 - \Delta z_i; \quad z_i^{(+1)} = z_i^0 + \Delta z_i. \quad (3)$$

c) Coordinates of the six "star points" ( $z_i^{(-\alpha)}$ ,  $z_i^{(+\alpha)}$ ) were determined using the parameter  $\alpha$  („star arm”), whose value was determined with Eq:

$$\alpha^4 + 2^n \alpha^2 - 2^{n-1}(n + 0,5N_0) = 0, \quad (4)$$

that

$$\alpha^4 + 8\alpha^2 - 22 = 0. \quad (5)$$

Experimental data and matrix work are presented in Table 1 and detailed calculations, PO2 schedule are presented below.

3.1. Model developement

$N:=19$     $i:=0..N-1$     $n:=3$     $l:=0.5\cdot(n+1)\cdot(n+2)$     $j:=0..l-1$   
 $r_0:=5$     $\alpha:=\sqrt{-4+\sqrt{38}}$

$x_{i,0}:=$	$x_{i,1}:=$	$x_{i,2}:=$	$x_{i,3}:=$	$y_i:=$
1	-1	-1	-1	49.8
1	1	-1	-1	60.24
1	-1	1	-1	51.79
1	1	1	-1	61.08
1	-1	-1	1	59.71
1	1	-1	1	87.94
1	-1	1	1	62.12
1	1	1	1	89.67
1	0	0	0	83.52
1	0	0	0	83.14
1	0	0	0	86.88
1	0	0	0	82.74
1	0	0	0	85.98
1	$-\alpha$	0	0	58.68
1	$\alpha$	0	0	86.22
1	0	$-\alpha$	0	70.71
1	0	$\alpha$	0	77.22
1	0	0	$-\alpha$	69.01
1	0	0	$\alpha$	90.12

Calculation of  $\alpha$

$f(\alpha):=\alpha^4+2^n\cdot\alpha^2-2^{n-1}\cdot(n+0.5r_0)$   
 $r:=\text{root}(f(\alpha),\alpha)$   
 $r=1.471$

Calculation of coefficients

$x_{i,4}:=x_{i,1}\cdot x_{i,2}$     $x_{i,5}:=x_{i,1}\cdot x_{i,3}$

$x_{i,6}:=x_{i,2}\cdot x_{i,3}$

$$x_{i,7}:=(x_{i,1})^2-\frac{1\cdot\left[\sum_i(x_{i,1})^2\right]}{N}$$

$$x_{i,8}:=(x_{i,2})^2-\frac{1\cdot\left[\sum_i(x_{i,2})^2\right]}{N}$$

$$x_{i,9}:=(x_{i,3})^2-\frac{1\cdot\left[\sum_i(x_{i,3})^2\right]}{N}$$

$$b_j:=\frac{\sum_i(x_{i,j}\cdot y_i)}{\sum_i(x_{i,j})^2}$$

b =

	0
0	73.504
1	9.411
2	1.342
3	8.726
4	-0.229
5	4.506
6	0.164
7	-7.497
8	-6.797
9	-4.21

$$b^T = \begin{array}{c|cccccccc} & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ \hline 0 & 73.504 & 9.411 & 1.342 & 8.726 & -0.229 & 4.506 & 0.164 & -7.497 & -6.797 \end{array}$$

$$Y_{\max} = 97.98$$

$$z1_0 := 60 \quad z2_0 := 1.6 \quad z3_0 := 90$$

### 3.2. Statistical analysis of the model

$$Y_i := \sum_j (b_j \cdot x_{i,j}) \quad a := \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_i (x_{i,1})^2 \quad a = 0.649$$

$$v_{\text{repetat}} := \begin{pmatrix} 83.52 \\ 83.14 \\ 86.88 \\ 82.74 \\ 85.98 \end{pmatrix} \quad D0 := \text{Var}(v_{\text{repetat}}) \quad D0 = 3.438 \quad Dcon := \frac{1 \cdot \left[ \sum_i (y_i - Y_i)^2 \right]}{N - 1}$$

$$Dcon = 6.897$$

$$Fc := \frac{Dcon}{D0} \quad Fc = 2.006 \quad FT := qF(0.95, N - 1, 4) \quad FT = 5.821$$

$Fc < FT$ , so the mathematical model is appropriate and can be used for optimization

### 3.3. Canonical form of regression equation

$$B11 := \begin{pmatrix} b_7 & 0.5 \cdot b_4 & 0.5 \cdot b_5 \\ 0.5 \cdot b_4 & b_8 & 0.5 \cdot b_6 \\ 0.5 \cdot b_5 & 0.5 \cdot b_6 & b_9 \end{pmatrix} \quad B1 := \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad Xc := -0.5 \cdot B11^{-1} \cdot B1$$

$$B11 = \begin{pmatrix} -7.497 & -0.114 & 2.253 \\ -0.114 & -6.797 & 0.082 \\ 2.253 & 0.082 & -4.21 \end{pmatrix} \quad b0 := b_0 - a \cdot (b_7 + b_8 + b_9) \quad B1 = \begin{pmatrix} 9.411 \\ 1.342 \\ 8.726 \end{pmatrix} \quad Xc = \begin{pmatrix} 1.118 \\ 0.1 \\ 1.637 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Dy_i := W_i + Q_i$$

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$$b0 = 85.51$$

$$Y_{\max} := b0 + B1^T Xc + Xc^T \cdot B11 \cdot Xc$$

$$Dy_i := W_i + Q_i$$

$$a1 := \text{eigenvals}(B11)$$

$$a1 = \begin{pmatrix} -3.064 \\ -8.653 \\ -6.787 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta z1 := 10$$

$$\Delta z2 := 0.3$$

$$\Delta z3 := 30$$

$$K(x1, x2, x3) := b0 + b_1 x1 + b_2 x2 + b_3 x3 + b_4 x1 \cdot x2 + b_5 \cdot x1 \cdot x3 + b_6 x2 \cdot x3$$

$$L(x1, x2, x3) := b_7 (x1^2 - a) + b_8 (x2^2 - a) + b_9 (x3^2 - a)$$

$$\eta(x1, x2, x3) := K(x1, x2, x3) + L(x1, x2, x3)$$

### 3.4. Calculation of the error of the performance ( $\delta_y$ )

$$Db_j := \frac{D0}{\sum_i (x_{1,j})^2}$$

$$Db0 := Db_0 + 3 \cdot a \cdot Db_8$$

$$Db0 = 0.895$$

$$e := 2^n + 2\alpha^2$$

$$f := 2^n + 2\alpha^4$$

$$H := 2 \cdot \alpha^4 \cdot [N \cdot f + (n-1) \cdot N \cdot 2^n]$$

$$E := -2 \cdot H^{-1} \cdot e \cdot \alpha$$

$$G := H^{-1} \cdot (e^2 - N \cdot 2^n)$$

$$\text{cov\_b0bii} := E \cdot D0$$

$$\text{cov\_biibjj} := G \cdot D0$$

$$W_q := Db0 + Db_2 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n (x_{1,j})^2 + Db_8 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n (x_{1,j})^4 + Db_5 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=j+1}^n \left[ (x_{1,j})^2 \cdot (x_{1,k})^2 \right]$$

$$Q_i := 2\text{cov\_b0bii} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n (x_{1,j})^2 + 2\text{cov\_biibjj} \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=j+1}^n \left[ (x_{1,j})^2 \cdot (x_{1,k})^2 \right]$$

$$Dy_i := W_i + Q_i$$

$$\eta(x1, x2, x3) := K(x1, x2, x3) + b_7 \cdot x1^2 + b_8 \cdot x2^2 + b_9 \cdot x3^2$$

$$x1op := Xc_0 \quad x2op := Xc_1 \quad x3op := Xc_2$$

$$z1op := z1_0 + x1op \cdot \Delta z1 \quad z2op := z2_0 + x2op \cdot \Delta z2 \quad z3op := z3_0 + x3op \cdot \Delta z3$$

$$z1op = 71.181 \quad z2op = 1.63 \quad z3op = 139.107 \quad \eta(x1op, x2op, x3op) = 97.98$$

$$v_1 := Xc_0 \quad v_2 := Xc_1 \quad v_3 := Xc_2 \quad j := 1..n$$

$$T := Db0 + Db_2 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n (v_j)^2 + Db_8 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n (v_j)^4 + Db_5 \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=j+1}^n \left[ (v_j)^2 \cdot (v_k)^2 \right]$$

$$R := 2cov\_b0bii \cdot \sum_{j=1}^n (v_j)^2 + 2 \cdot cov\_biibjj \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sum_{k=j+1}^n \left[ (v_j)^2 \cdot (v_k)^2 \right]$$

$$Dy := T + R \quad Dy = 6.492$$

$$tT := qt(0.975, N - 1) \quad tT = 2.101 \quad \delta y := tT \cdot \sqrt{Dy} \quad \delta y = 5.353$$

### 3.4. Practical Efficiency

$$z1opt := 70 \quad z2opt := 1.6 \quad z3opt := 140$$

$$x1opt := \frac{z1opt - z1_0}{\Delta z1} \quad x2opt := \frac{z2opt - z2_0}{\Delta z2} \quad x3opt := \frac{z3opt - z3_0}{\Delta z3}$$

$$\eta(x1opt, x2opt, x3opt) = 97.786$$

$$\eta(x1opt, x2opt, x3opt) - \delta y = 92.433$$

#### 4. Results and discussion

Based on calculations in Figs. 1-4 are presented the variations of extraction efficiency of lead from lead acetate solution with scrap iron mean diameter,  $d_m = 1\text{ mm}$ , a stirring speed of 100 rpm and at different rates parameters taken into account.

All reaction steps were performed in a reaction carried out in a Pyrex flask of 500 ml double necked round base equipped with a condenser to condense the vapor released. During the reaction solution was stirred with a magnetic stirrer at about 100 rpm and heated bathroom temostatică.

The solution after filtration is recovered for recycling. Addition of sulfuric acid increases the recovery of the filtered solution of iron sulphate less soluble compounds (II).

The results are also summarized in the Table 2.

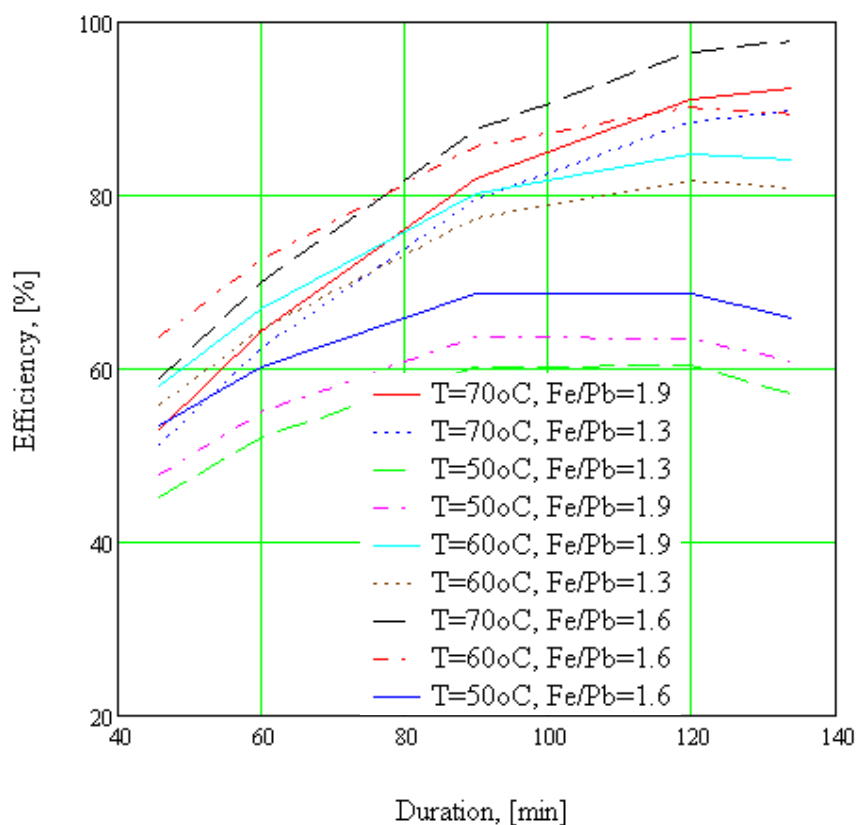


Fig. 1. Extraction yield depending on temperature and the amount of reducing.



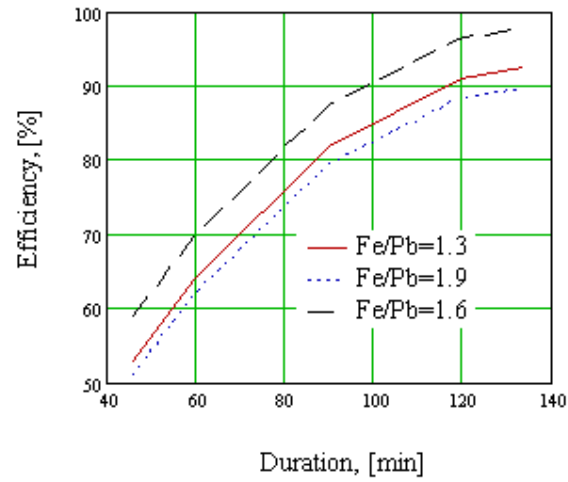


Fig. 2. Extraction yield versus the depends on the amount of reduction agent at 70 ° C

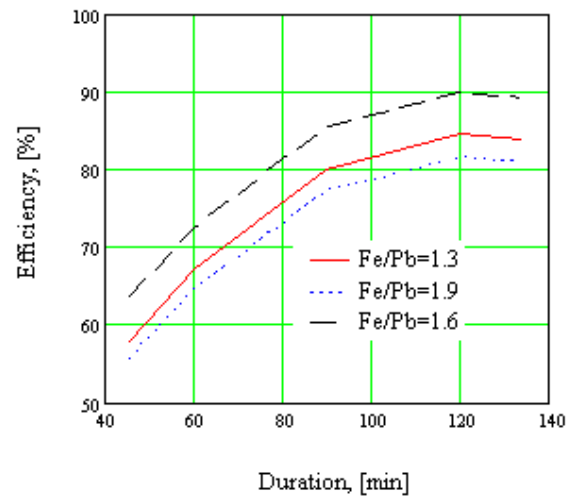


Fig. 3. Extraction yield versus the depends on the amount of reduction agent at 60°C

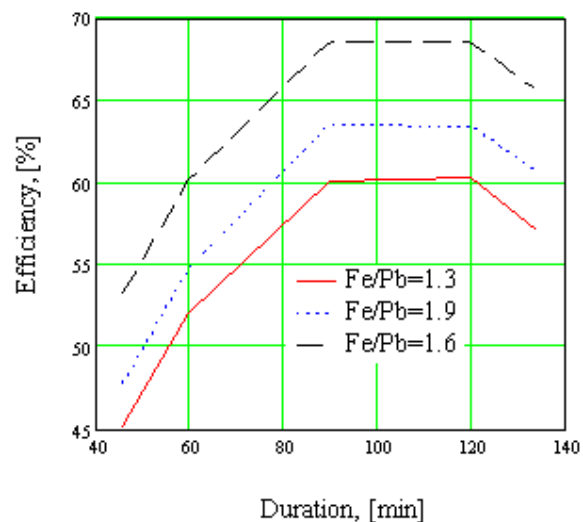


Fig.4. Extraction yield versus the depends on the amount of reduction agent at 50 ° C

Table 2

## PO2 Program

Sample	Process parameters (coded units)			Process parameters (uncoded units)			Process Performance , $\eta$ , %
	Temp. $x_1$	Molar ratio Fe/Pb $x_2$	Duration $x_3$	Temp. °C	Molar ratio Fe/Pb	Duration, min.	
1	-1	-1	-1	50	1.3	60	49.80
2	+1	-1	-1	70	1.3	60	60.24
3	-1	+1	-1	50	1.9	60	51.79
4	+1	+1	-1	70	1.9	60	61.08
5	-1	-1	+1	50	1.3	120	59.71
6	+1	-1	+1	70	1.3	120	87.94
7	-1	+1	+1	50	1.9	120	62.12
8	+1	+1	+1	70	1.9	120	89.67
9	0	0	0	60	1.6	90	83.52
10	0	0	0	60	1.6	90	83.14
11	0	0	0	60	1.6	90	86.88
12	0	0	0	60	1.6	90	82.74
13	0	0	0	60	1.6	90	85.98
14	-1.471	0	0	45.29	1.6	90	58.68
15	+1.471	0	0	74.71	1.6	90	86.22
16	0	-1.471	0	60	1.1587	90	70.71
17	0	+1.471	0	60	2.0413	90	77.22
18	0	0	-1.471	60	1.6	45.87	69.01
19	0	0	+1.471	60	1.6	134.13	90.12

It enables one to calculate the mathematical model, proved to be proper one the optimal conditions, and to determine the process parameters leading to maximum efficiency cement lead. These best values are: 70°C operating temperature, process duration-120 min, the molar ratio Fe/Pb 1.6, for which extraction yield is 97.78%. Since the error of calculation of the process for the regime considered is 5.35, maximum efficiency to be taken into consideration for designing industrial plant is 92.43%.

## 5. Conclusions

- Studies and preliminary investigations have taken account the following parameters which have a significant influence on process performance (*yield of solubilization - y*): *temperature ( $z_1$ )*, *the duration of the process ( $z_2$ )* and *the ratio  $L / S$  ( $z_3$ )*; other parameters - *particle size reduction ( $dm$ )* and *stirring speed ( $rpm$ )*, or they have a significant influence - case of stirring speed, or they are limited by cost; in this case they are kept constant.

- To determine the optimal conditions for conducting the process of hardening, experiments were conducted under an active experimental program that is active namely orthogonal second-order program (PO2).

- The mathematical model obtained with this program and presented as a polynomial of degree two of three variables, was subjected to statistical analysis and based on Fisher criterion correlation was found between the model and experimental data.

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