Development of Techniques for Handling Organometallic Compounds

• as with other physical sciences, development is strongly coupled with advances in techniques:

(

NMR, ir, X-ray crystallography

• Many organometallic are air-sensitive, so technique development in handling compounds in vacuum or an inert atmosphere are central

Increasing degree of sophistication...exclusion of O₂ and H₂O-

simple funnel with N₂ flow over flask, filter frit, etc. glove bag Schlenk tubes* cannula methods inert atmosphere boxes (several types)* high vacuum line^(*) *depends upon purity of inert gas

• Historical:

1900- Alfred Stock developed chemical vacuum line for handling *volatile* nonmetal hydrides (boranes, silanes, *etc.*). Rotary, oil-filled vacuum pump had just been developed...improved vacuum. Used soft glass; not able to withstand thermal shock; Hg pools used on stopcocks. Stock's death was a result of Hg poisoning.

1920- others (Anton Berg; HC Brown) pick up on Stocks design, add their own wrinkles.

Starting about 1960- new materials (silicones, teflon, flexible metal lines and connectors) led to better lines

• Glove bag to vacuum atmosphere's system...

plexiglas, Al, stainless steel

types of procedures for maintaining pure inert gas...gas types (He, N₂, Ar)

Na/K; supported O₂ removing materials

circulating pathways and effectiveness of O2/H2O removal

dessiccants: LN₂(10⁻²³ Torr); CaH₂; 4Å MS(10⁻³ Torr), Al₂O₃, CaCl₂ (0.2 Torr)

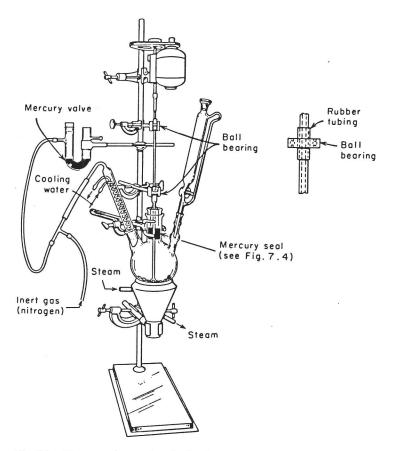


Fig. 7.1. Three-neck reaction flask with dropping funnel, stirrer, and reflux condenser. This type of setup is frequently used for Grignard and similar reactions. (By permission from Fieser and Fieser, "Reagents for Organic Synthesis," John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1967.)

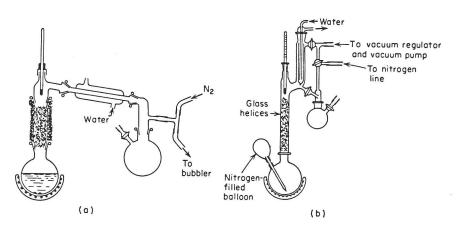


Fig. 7.2. (a) Distillation under inert atmosphere: Note that the complete apparatus should be purged initially, but a flow through the apparatus during distillation reduces the efficiency of separation. The sidearm allows one to pump out the stoppered flask and fill it with nitrogen before it is attached to the still. Also, it allows one to maintain a brisk nitrogen flow over the solvent when it is removed from the still. (b) Distillation at reduced pressure with minimum exposure to the atmosphere: The nitrogen-filled balloon may be replaced by a hose connected to a nitrogen source. During the vacuum distillation the three-way stopcock is turned so the upper and lower sections communicate, but nitrogen does not enter. The other stopcocks are open. The reflux ratio is adjusted by turning the cold finger. When a sample is to be collected, the lower stopcock is closed and the three-way stopcock is turned so that nitrogen flush. If another fraction is to be collected, the upper stopcock is momentarily closed off, the new receiver is pumped out, and the new fraction is collected.

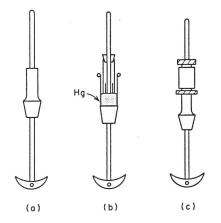


Fig. 7.4. Stirrers. (a) This precisionground stirrer must be well lubricated with light mineral oil. (b) The mercury-seal stirrer involves a concentric cylinder which is connected to the stirring shaft by means of a one-hole stopper. This cylinder dips into the mercury pool to form the seal. The stirrer shaft is supported as indicated in Fig. 7.1. (c) The upper section of this stirrer is constructed with a stuffing box; another design, which is similar in outward appearance, utilizes an O-ring seal.

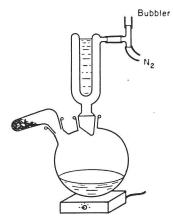


Fig. 7.3. Reaction flask with solids-addition tube, low-temperature reflux condenser, and magnetic stirrer. Solids are introduced by rotating the addition tube and tapping it gently.

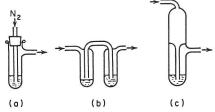


Fig. 7.5. Some common bubbler designs. Examples b through e have the advantage that mineral oil is not sucked into the apparatus if a momentary pressure reversal occurs.





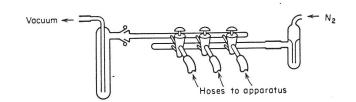
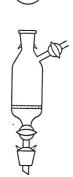
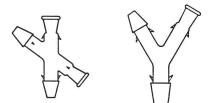


Fig. 7.6. Manifold for medium-vacuum and inert gas. A mineral oil bubbler is included in the nitrogen line, and a low-temperature trap is used in the vacuum line to protect the pump.

Fig 7.8 Schlenk tube. This is useful as a reaction vessel and filtrate receiver. The small glass ears adjacent to the ground glass joint are used to hold the components together with rubber bands or springs. Two sizes are convenient: one with a $\frac{24}{40}$ F joint, a length of 250 mm, and diameter of 55 mm; the other with a $\frac{1}{35}$ F joint, a length of 160 mm, and 40-mm diameter. Note the gradual flare below the joint, which facilitates removal of solids and liquids.

Fig. 7.9. Fritte or fritted funnel. This is used for filtrations. When stopcock grease is objectionable, Teflon stopcocks may be used. However, these tend to leak and are not suitable for extremely sensitive samples. In this case the lower stopcock may be omitted or the double Schlenk tube (Fig. 7.21) may be used. The fritted funnel is constructed with overall dimensions similar to those of the Schlenk tube.





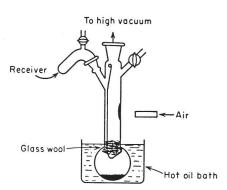


Fig. 7.12. Transfer crosses.

Fig. 7.13. Sublimation apparatus. Typical size: $\frac{14}{35}$ § joints; height, 300 mm; diameter, 20 mm.

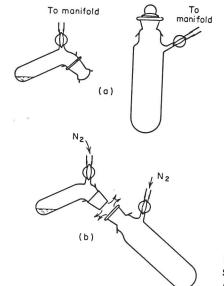


Fig. 7.14. Joining the solids container to a Schlenk tube. (a) Initial purge of tubes; (b) the union of the two parts.

(b)



Fig.7.15. Dropping funnel. (a) The dropping funnel after it has been purged and filled with solvent; (b) dropping funnel attached to a Schlenk tube.

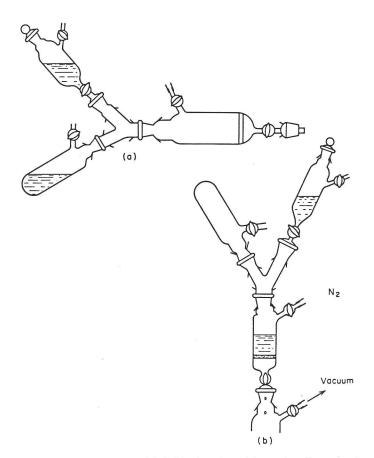


Fig. 7.16. A filtration. (a) Schlenk tube with mother liquor and precipitate and dropping funnel attached to a fritted funnel through a transfer cross. (b) Filtration: The filtrate is being collected in a previously purged Schlenk tube.

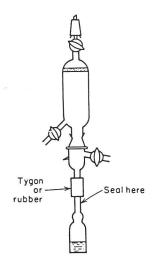


Fig. 7.19. Transfer into a seal-off vial. Note that the vial adapter is designed so it may be purged and then flushed while it is being connected to a fritte (or Schlenk tube). When the solid has been transferred, the system may be evacuated and the vial sealed off. If one wishes to seal off the compound under 1 atm nitrogen, a remote stopcock may be opened to the atmosphere immediately before the seal is to be made. This will avoid the possibility of blowing a bubble in the glass because of excess pressure. The seal is accomplished by heating and then pulling out the glass, which is then sealed in a region of small diameter.

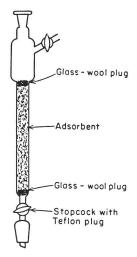
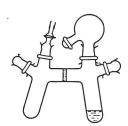


Fig. 7.20. Column for adsorption chromatography. Typical size: $\frac{14}{35}$ $\overline{\$}$ joints, 45-mm-diameter upper section, 20-mm-diameter column, and a 500-mm column length.

Fig. 7.21. Double Schlenk tube. In this figure a reaction product has been poured into the Schlenk tube. The reaction flask may be removed and the apparatus rotated by about 70°, followed by a slight evacuation of the left chamber to pull the filtrate into the left leg. Typical size: $\frac{24}{40}$ § joints, 50-mm-diameter legs.



Vent Serum bottle cop Wire

Fig. 7.23. The three-needle technique.

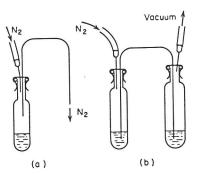
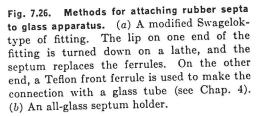
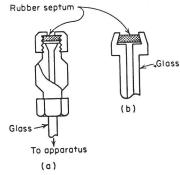


Fig. 7.25. Stainless-steel transfer tube. (a) Initial purge of transfer tube; (b) transfer of liquid through the tube by means of a pressure differential.





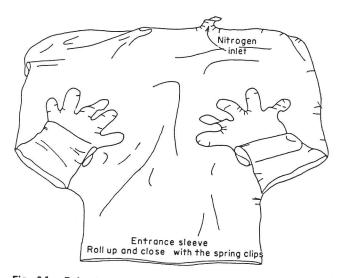
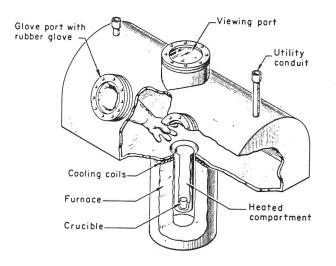


Fig. 8.1. Polyethylene glove bag. (Adapted from Instruments for Research and Industry, Cheltenham, Pa., Glove Bag Brochure.)



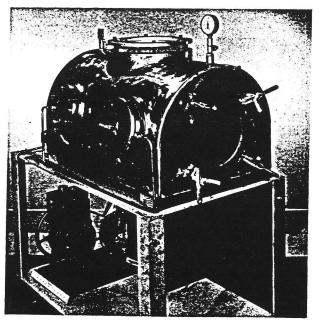


Fig. 8.16. A small evacuable glove box. The furnace arrangement is designed for studies on fused salts. (By permission from C. J. Barton, "Technique of Inorganic Chemistry," H. B. Jonassen and A. Weissberger (eds.), Vol. 3, p. 316, Interscience Publishers, New York, 1963.

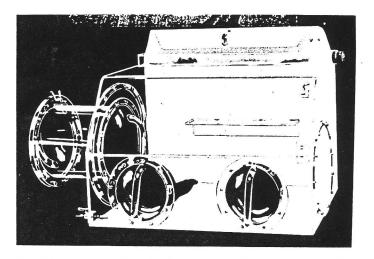


Fig. 8.18. A poly(methacrylate) glove box. (By permission of The Manostat Corp., New York, N.Y., Glove Box Bulletin.)

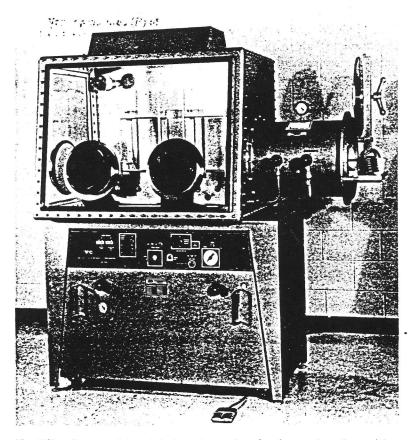


Fig. 8.19. Commercial metal glove box. An aluminum glove box with a recirculating gas-purification system. Note the sliding tray in the antechamber for easy transfer of items into the box. (By permission of Vacuum Atmospheres Corp., North Hollywood, Calif., Bulletin B10-64.)

Table 9.4. Miscellaneous dry oxygen scavengers

Agent	Description
Na-K (67-81% K by weight)	Liquid above 0°C and may be used in a U-tube gas bubbler. Removes O ₂ , H ₂ O, and Hg vapor. ^a
Na or K supported on glass wool	Similar to above. Supported Na is prepared by embedding the metal chunks in glass wool, evacuating, and heating to 300°C. ^b
CoO	Removes O ₂ at room temperature. Prepared by slowly heating CoCO ₃ to 340°C in vacuo. Not easily regenerated. ^o
Cr ⁺² in silica gel	Prepared by adsorption of a Cr ⁺³ solution on silica gel followed by reduction at 500°C in H ₂ . Efficient, low-capacity O ₂ absorption at room temperature. ⁴
Palladized or platinized asbestos (or "Deoxo" unit)	Removes traces of O ₂ from H ₂ at room tem- perature.
BTS catalyst in reduced form	Similar to above catalysts. 70°C required for removal of O ₂ from an H ₂ stream, 30-40°C required for CO stream.
Ba, Ca, Ca-10% Mg alloy, La, Mg, Th, or Zr	Removal of O ₂ from Ar stream at 300, 650, 475, 500, 600, 400, and 600°C respectively. ^e Also removal of O ₂ and N ₂ at 400, 650, 500, 800, 640, 800, and 1,000°C respectively. ^e
Brass, Cu, Ce, or U	Removal of O ₂ from Ar or N ₂ stream at 500, 600, 300, 200°C respectively. ^e
Li	Similar to Ca. Removes N_2 and O_2 but reacts with quartz or glass. ^f

^a E. R. Harrison, J. Sci. Instr., 29:295 (1952).

^b H. H. Storch, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 56:374 (1934); E. R. Harrison, J. Sci. Instr., 30:38 (1953), supported K.

^c H. A. Pagel and E. D. Frank, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 63:1468 (1941).

^d R. L. Burwell, Jr., private communication.

^e D. S. Gibbs, H. J. Svec, and R. E. Harrington, *Ind. Eng. Chem.*, **48**:289 (1956); note that hot Mg reacts with Vycor or fused silica tubing.

^t P. A. F. White and S. E. Smith, General Reference 9.1, pp. 48, 222.

Table 9.3. Recipes for oxygen-removing solutions

Solution	Preparation
Chromous sulfate (aqueous)	A fresh solution 0.4 M in chrome alum and 0.05 M in sulfuric acid is contacted with lightly alma- gamated Zn
Alkaline pyrogallol (aqueous) Sodium hyposulfite (aqueous)	15 g pyrogallic acid in 100 ml of 50% aqueous KOH 48 g Na ₂ S ₂ O ₄ , 40 g NaOH, and 12 g β -anthraqui- none sulfonate in 300 ml H ₂ O
Sodium anthraquinone-β-sul- fonate (aqueous) Benzophenone ketyl (oil)	 2% sodium anthraquinone-β-sulfonate in 1.5 M NaOH is contacted with zinc metal 1 g Na dispersed in mineral oil plus 4 g benzo- phenone in one liter of mineral oil

Table	9.1.	Vapor	pressures	(P) of
ice at	vario	ous ten	peratures	(1)*

<i>t</i> , ° <i>C</i>	P, mm
-90	0.07×10^{-3}
-80	0.40
-70	1.94
-60	8.08
-50	29.6
-40	96.6
-30	286.
-20	776.
-10	$1.95 imes10^\circ$
0.0	4.58

* After E. W. Washburn, "International Critical Tables," Vol. 3, p. 210.

Table 9.2. Desiccants*

Agent	Equilibrium water vapor pressure, mm	Remarks
 CaH2	< 10 ⁻⁵	Evolves hydrogen; no regeneration; basic
P_2O_5	2×10^{-5}	Capacity limited by formation of a surface film; acidic
$Mg(ClO_4)_2$	5×10^{-4}	Good capacity; regenerate at 250°C in vacuo; dangerous with reducing agents
ВаО	$7 imes 10^{-4}$	Small capacity; regeneration is unhandy; basic
Linde Molecular Sieves, 4A or 5A	ca. 1 \times 10 ⁻³	Good capacity; regenerate at 400°C in vacuo or in a "dry" gas stream
Alumina (active)	ca. 1 \times 10 ⁻³	Fair capacity; regenerate at 500°C in vacuo or in a "dry" gas stream, or 700°C in air
Silica gel (narrow		
pore)	ca. 2×10^{-3}	Fair capacity; regenerate at 300°C
кон	ca. 2×10^{-3}	Small capacity owing to coating of solid with solution; basic
Ca0	3×10^{-3}	Limited capacity, especially in the presence of CO ₂ ; basic
H_2SO_4 (concentrated)	ca. 3×10^{-3}	Oxidizing agent; acidic
H ₃ PO ₄ (syrupy)		Acidic
CaSO, (Drierite)		Regenerated at 250°C
CaCl ₂		Good capacity; slightly acidic

* Adapted in part from R. E. Dodd and P. L. Robinson, "Experimental Inorganic Chemistry," p. 137.

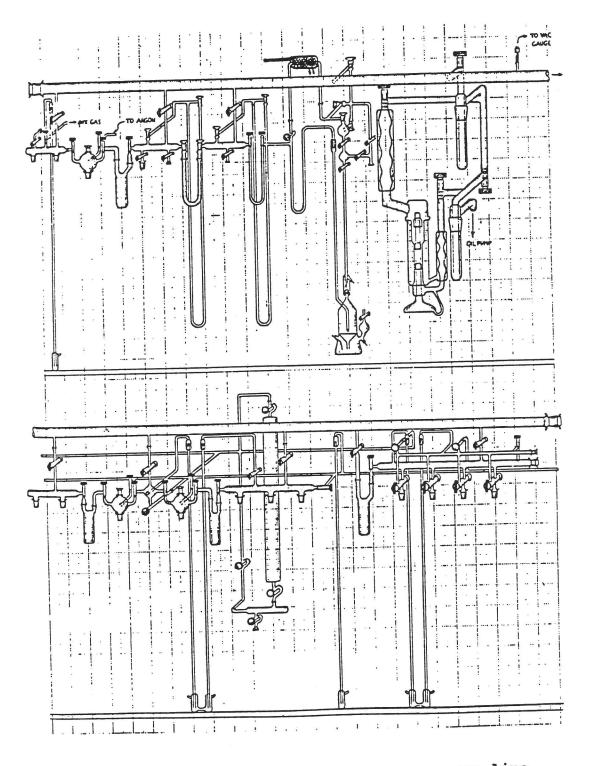


Figure 1. Diagram of a Bercaw group vacuum line (courtesy of Dr. Dean M. Roddick).

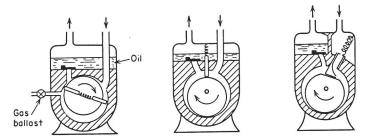
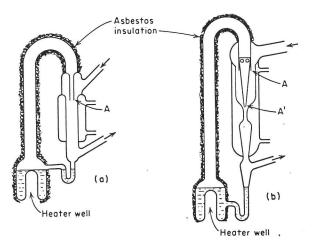
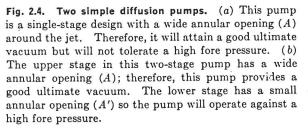


Fig. 2.2. Internal-vane, external-vane, and plunger-type rotary vacuum pumps. It will be noted that the internal-vane pump involves a rotor concentric with the drive shaft, but which is offcenter with respect to the stator. By contrast, the external-vane and rotary-plunger pumps have a rotor which is asymmetric with respect to the shaft; however, the shaft is centered in the stator. All three involve close tolerances, so the high-vacuum performance is impaired by particles of dirt or corrosive gases. Some pumps are partially constructed from soft die-cast metal, which is eroded by mercury.





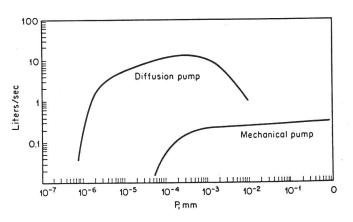


Fig. 2.3. Comparison of the pumping speed of a typical twostage mechanical pump with a single-stage diffusion pump.

Table 2.1. Comparison of fluids for diffusion pumps

Fluid	Type	Vapor pressure at 25°C (mm)	Resistance to air oxidation
Mercury		2×10^{-3}	Best
Apiezon A	Hydrocarbon	$2 imes 10^{-5}$	Poor
Apiezon B		4×10^{-7}	Poor
Apiezon C		10-8	Poor
Silicone 702			Better
Silicone 704	Silicone	10-6-10-8	Better
Silicone 705	Silicone	10-9-10-10	Better
Octoil		2×10^{-4}	Fair
Octoil S.		2×10^{-5}	Fair

Table 3.3. Vapor pressures of mercury

Temp, °C	Vapor pressure, mm*	Temp, °C	Vapor pressure, mm*
-38.88†	2.191×10^{-6}	180	8.773
-20	2.336×10^{-5}	200	17:27
0	1.996×10^{-4}	220	32.15
20	1.268×10^{-3}	240	56.93
25	1.935×10^{-3}	260	96.40
40	$6.340 imes 10^{-3}$	280	157.17
60	0.02605	300	247.41
80	0.09095	320	377.32
100	0.2771	340	559.30
120	0.7521	356.58	760.00
140	1.850	360	807.95
160	4.180		

^{*} From -38.88 through 240°C these data are from T. B. Douglas, A. F. Ball, and D. F. Ginnings, J. Res. Nat. Bur. Std., **46**:334 (1951); from 260 through 360°C the data are from F. H. Spedding and J. L. Dye, J. Phys. Chem., **59**:581 (1955).

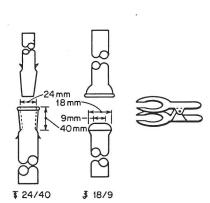
† Triple point.

Table 4.1. Some common greases for vacuum apparatus

Type and brand	A pproximate vapor pressure, mm (room temp.)	Application	Approximale usable range, °C	Resistance to organic solvent vapors	Chemically attacked by
Hydrocarbons: Apiezon L Apiezon M Apiezon N Apiezon T	10 ⁻⁷ 10 ⁻⁸	Ground joints Ground joints Stopcocks and joints Stopcocks and joints	Max 30 Max 30 Max 30 Max 110	Poor Poor Poor Poor	{Reactive halides such as BCl ₃ , and very strong oxidizing agents such as O ₃
Halocarbon: Kel-F 90	<10-3*	Stopcocks and joints	Max ca. 30	Poor	Strong reducing agents such as alkali metals, and strong nucleo- philes such as alkyl phosphines
Silicone: Dow Corning HyVac	<10-6	Stopcocks and joints	ca20 to >100	Fair	Tends to cake after long exposure to NH ₃ gas Reactive metalloid fluorides like BF ₃

* Many samples of this grease contain large quantities of low-molecular-weight volatiles.

Fig. 4.1. Standard taper (\mathfrak{F}) and spherical joint (\mathfrak{F}). When the joints are lubricated with grease, they must generally be held together. Springs or rubber bands are frequently employed on standard taper joints, while a spring-loaded clamp (illustrated above) or a screw clamp (illustrated in Fig. 4.2) is used with ball joints. The method used for specifying joint sizes in the United States is illustrated, and it is described in detail in National Bureau of Standards, Commercial Standard CS 21-39. British standards are described by Dodd and Robinson, "Experimental Inorganic Chemistry," p. 98, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam 1954.



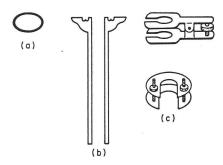


Fig. 4.2. Cross-section of a Urry-type glass O-ring joint and two types of screw clamps. (a) An O-ring. Dimensions and code numbers for standard O-rings are given in Chap. 6. (b) Cross-section of a Urry-type O-joint. Note the ridge which is tooled into the groove. (c) Two types of joint clamps. The upper one is manufactured by A. H. Thomas Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

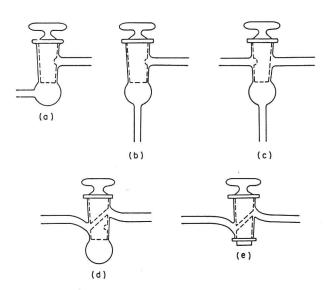


Fig. 4.6. Hollow-plug vacuum stopcocks. The hollow plug is firmly seated in types a, b, and c as long as the lower section is at reduced pressure. Stopcock d has a hollow plug with an oblique tube in the center; when the plug is turned by 180°, the lower section may be evacuated. Subsequently, only occasional evacuation of the vacuum cup is necessary. Type d does not have provision for evacuation of the plug and is therefore more liable to leak. Prolonged exposure of any of these stopcocks to solvent vapors erodes the grease and introduces leaks. (Adapted from Catalog C-64, Eck and Krebs Co., Long Island City, N.Y.)

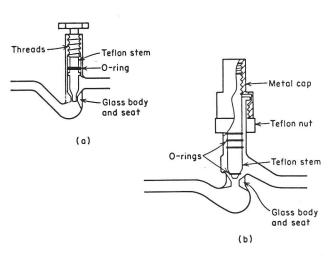


Fig. 4.8. Needle-value stopcocks. A number of variants of these two basic designs are on the market. In addition to the "straight through" flow pattern shown here, these values are available in "right-angled" designs. Type a uses a threaded Teflon stem working in a threaded glass body. In type b the stem does not rotate, so when the cap and Teflon nut are turned, the stem is forced up or down.

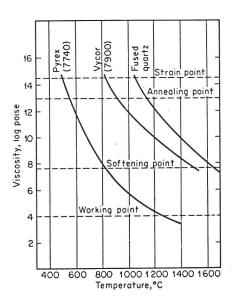


Fig. II.1. Viscosity-temperature curves for some common laboratory glasses. The numbers in parentheses correspond to Corning designations. (Adapted from Corning Glass Works, Corning, N.Y., Bulletin B-83, 1957.)

Table III.1. Permeability Q [in 10^{-10} cm²/sec (cm Hg)] for some common polymeric materials*

Polymer	°C	H ₂	02	N 2	CO2	H 20
Cellulose and cellulose derivatives:						
Cellophane (cellulose acetate)	25		0.0021	0.0032	0.0047	47-169,000
Cellulose acetate, plasticized	21	4				
	25					11,000-35,000
	30		0.78	0.28	2.38	
Cellulose nitrate	25	1.7	1.95	0.12	2.21	
Ethylcellulose, plasticized	30		26.5	8.4	41.0	
Elastomers:						
Natural rubber, vulcanized	25	48	23	7.9	130	2,300
Butadiene rubber, vulcanized	25	42	19.2	6.5	139	
Buna S, vulcanized	25	40	17	6.2	122	4,400
Buna N, vulcanized	25	16	3.8	1.0	30	6,100
Neoprene, vulcanized (poly-		20194-03				
chloroprene)	25	13	4.0	1.2	25.8	910
Butyl rubber, vulcanized	25	7.2	1.3	3.3	5.1	
Thiokol B, vulcanized	25	1.6	0.3		3.1	65
Silicone rubber	30		91	(270)	460	
Ethylene-propylene rubber	30		(air	11)		2
Fluorocarbon polymers:	1.1					
Teflon (polytetrafluoroethylene)	20 25				4.7	
Teflon FEP (tetrafluoroethylene						
hexafluoropropene copolymer) Kel-F, crystalline (polychloro-	25		4.5	1.9	10	
trifluoroethylene)	25		0.040	0.005	0.21	<0.3
Polyamides and polyesters:						
Nylon 6 [poly(6-aminocaproic						
acid)]	20				0.088	
	25					40-4,000
	30		0.038	0.0095		
Mylar [poly(ethylene terphtha-						
late)]	30 40		0.045	0.011	0.15	
Polycarbonate poly(4,4'-isopro-						
pylidene diphenylene carbon-						
ate)	25		1.4	0.3	8.0	
Olefin polymers:						
Polyethylene, low density	~25	(4)				21-66
	30		3.95	1.36	16.7	
Polyethylene, high density	30		0.51	0.18	2.1	
Polypropylene	30		2.3	0.44	9.2	
Polystyrene	25	(15)				920-1,300
	30		1.1	0.29	8.8	
Polyvinyl chloride	25			0.25	0.0	130-260
	30		0.3	0.11	1.5	
Saran; polyvinylidene chloride	30		5×10^{-3}	9 × 10-4	0.03	
Pliofilm, plasticized; rubber hy-	00		0 1 10 .	3 × 10 4	0.03	
drochloride	25					13-330
	30		0.51	0.14	1.2	10-000
Acrylics:			0.54	0.14	1.3	
Polymethyl methacrylate	25					1,300

* These data are taken from H. Yasuda, "Polymer Handbook," J. Brandrup and E. H. Immergut (eds.), V 13ff, Interscience Publishers, New York, 1966; G. J. van Amerongen, "Elastomers and Plastomers," R. Houwink (ed.), vol. 1, pp. 310ff, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1950; R. P. Bringer, paper presented at Society of Aerospace Materials and Process Engineers, St. Louis, May 7-9, 1962 (fluorocarbon data, in part), Ethylene propylene rubber: "Nordel an Engineering Profile," E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co., Elastomer Chemical Dept., Wilmington, Del., and Du Pont Bulletin T-3B (Teflon FEP). Table 1.1 Compounds for cryostatic baths

Temp, °C*	Compound	Temp, °C*	Compound
+6.55	Cyclohexane	-95.0	Toluene
+5.53	Benzene	-96.7	Methylene chloride
0.00	Water †	-111	Trichlorofluoromethane (Freon-11, bp 23.8°C)‡
-8.6	Methyl salicylate	-111.95	Carbon disulfide
-15.2	Benzyl alcohol	-118.9	Ethyl bromide
-22.95	Carbon tetrachloride	-126.59	Methylcyclohexane
-30.82	Bromobenzene	-135	Dichlorofluoromethane (Genetron-21, bp 8.9°C)‡
-37.4	Anisole Chlorobenzene	-138.3	Ethyl chloride
-45.2 -51.5	Ethyl malonate	-139	CHCl ₃ , 19.7% by weight C ₂ H ₅ Br, 44.9%
-57.5	Chloral		trans C ₂ H ₂ Cl ₂ , 13.8% C ₂ HCl ₃ , 21.6%
-63.5 -83.6	Chloroform§ Ethyl acetate	-160.0	isoPentane

* Most of these values are taken from J. Timmermans, "Physico-chemical Constants of Pure Organic Compounds," vols. 1 and 2, Elsevier Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 1950 and 1965.

† Pure crushed ice in contact with distilled water.

[‡] These fluorocarbons have low toxicity and are nonflammable. The liquid may be stored for reuse in a stoppered Dewar in a freezer.

§ Reagent-grade chloroform contains a significant quantity of alcohol, which lowers the melting point.

Table 5.2 References to infrared and visible-ultraviolet cells for air-sensitive compounds

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vacuum-tight innared cen for nquido.	
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Protective holder for KBr pressed disks	P. A. Saats and H. W. Morgan, Ap Spectry., 22:576 (1968).