
The equation for calculating the life of Micro-fuel cells

Rules of Physics govern the life of a sensor

Months of life in air $\frac{Pb}{I} \times K$

Where

Pb = Amount of lead in (grams)

I = Cell current output in air (Amperes)

$K = 3.59 \times 10^4$

Percent hours = $(7.2 \times 10^4) \times$ (Months of life in 100% Oxygen)

[7.22×10^4 derived from $100 \times 30 \times 24$ hrs]

For the R- 17

Pb 14 gms

Maximum current in air = $\frac{14 \times 3.59 \times 10^4}{127 \times 10^{-6}} = 30.9$ months (21% Oxygen)

Percent hours = $(7.2 \times 10^4) \times (30.9 \times 0.209) = 595,522$

NB multiplying by 0.209 converts months of life in air to months of life in 100% oxygen

Assume 75% anode efficiency

$$595,552 \times 0.75 = 447,000 \text{ percent hours}$$

Marketing Rules

If 100% consumption of lead is assumed the life can be quoted as 595,000 percent hours.

Sensor output is quoted as +/- 30%

If all the factors are in one direction the sensor could have an output 30% lower thus theoretically increasing the life to 892,000 percent hours.