PH700 Benchtop pH Meter

Instruction Manual

CE ISO 9001:2008

APERA INSTRUMENTS, LLC

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1   Brief Introduction

Thank you for purchasing Apera Instruments PH700 Benchtop pH meter.

This instrument is an outstanding combination of advanced electronics desin and sensor technology. It's the most economical choice of a reliable lab benchtop pH meter. Please read this maual carefully to properly use and maintain the meter. Apera Instruments reserves the right to update the contents of this manual without giving prior notices.

1.1   Main Features

- The meter has a built-in microprocessor chip, which enables intelligent functions such as automatic calibration, automatic temperature compensation, data storage, parameter setup, max/min reading display, etc.
- The advanced automatic calibration mode has calibration guide and self-diganosis functions, automatically recognizing standard buffer solutions (USA or NIST series).
- The advanced digital processing technology intelligently improves the meter's response time and measuring accuracy with stable reading display mode available.
- The kit comes with a 3-in-1 combination pH Electrode, measuring pH and temperature simultaneously.
- IP54 dustproof and spillproof. Connectors are protected by silicone seal caps, effectively ensuring the reliability and service life of the meter under harsh environment.
- Detachable electrode holder and 3 bottles of pH buffer solutions come with the kit for convenient use.

2   Technical Specifications

pH	Range	0 to 14.00 pH
	Resolution	0.01/0.1 pH
	Accuracy	±0.01 pH ±1 digit
	Temperature Compensation	0 to 100 ˚C (Auto or Manual)
	Calibration	1 to 3 points automatic calibration
mV	Range	-1999 mV - 0 - 1999 mV
	Resolution	1 mV
	Accuracy	±0.1% F.S ±1 digit
Temp.	Range	0 to 100˚C; 32 to 212°F
	Resolution	0.1˚C; 0.1/1°F
	Accuracy	±0.5˚C ±1 digit
Others	Data Storage	50 groups
	Storage Content	Numberings, Measurement, Unit, Temperature, Temperature Compensation Status
	Power	DC9V/300mA
	IP Ratings	IP54 dustproof and spillproof
	Size and Dimension	(240*235*103) mm/1kg

3   Instrument Description

3.1   LCD Display
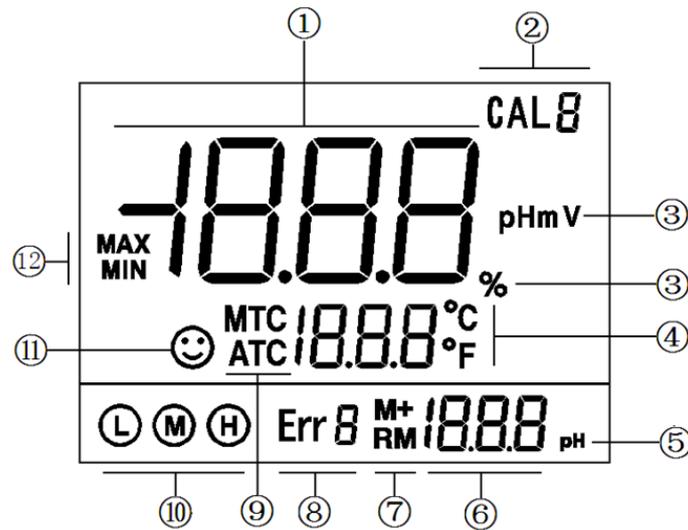

Figure-1

(1) — Measurement value

(2) — Calibration icons and numberings

(3) — Measurement unit

(4) — Temperature and reminder icons

(5) — The pH unit displayed during calibration

(6) — The pH value displayed during calibration, numberings for storage and recall, and reminder icons

(7) — Icons for data storage and recall — M+: store measuring data; RM: Recall measuring data

(8) — Self-Diagnosis icons and numberings

(9) — Temperature compensation mode icons — ATC: Auto Temperature Compensation; MTC: Manual Temperature Compensation

(10) — Completed calibration icons

(11) — Stable reading icon

(12) — Icons for maximum and minimum values

3.2   Keypad

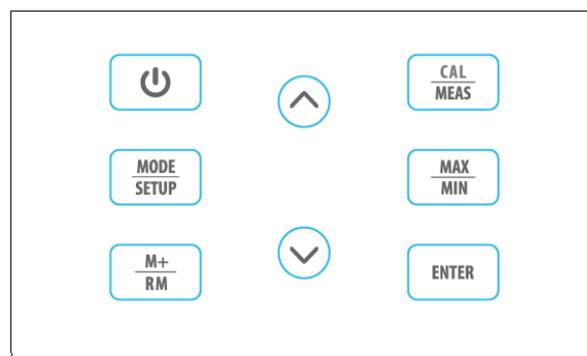Figure-2

3.2.1. Keypad operations

Short press ----- <1.5 seconds; Long press ----- >1.5 seconds.

3.2.2 For keypad operation, please see Table-1.

Table – 1 Keypad operations and descriptions

Keypad	Operation	Functions
⏻	Short Press	• Power on/off
MODE STEUP	Short Press	• Select measuring mode: pH→mV.
	Long Press	• Enter parameter setting：P1→P2→…P4.
CAL MEAS	Short Press	• Enter Calibration mode • Cancel any operation and go back to measurement mode
ENTER	Short Press	• In calibration mode, press to conduct calibration • In parameter setting, press to confirm selection
M+ RM	Short Press	• Store measuring data
	Long Press	• Recall stored measuring data
∧ ∨	Short Press or Long Press	• In manual temperature compensation mode, short press to change temperature, long press to change quickly • In parameter setting mode, short press to change parameter and settings. • In recall mode, short press to change numberings, long press to change quickly.
MAX MIN	Short Press	• Buttons for max/min values (refere to section 3.6)

3.3 Connectors
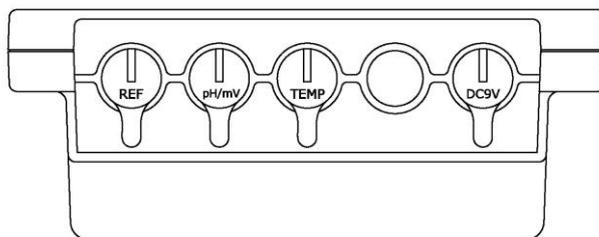
Symbol	Connector Name	Connector Type
REF	Socket for reference electrode	Φ2 banana type
pH/mV	Socket for pH and ORP electrode	BNC
TEMP	Socket for temperature sensor	RCA
DC9V	DC9V power socket	Φ2.5 direct type

3.4 Stable reading display mode

When the measuring value is stable, smiley face icon 😊 appears on LCD, see Figure-3. Please do not get the reading value or make calibration until the 😊 icon appears and stays.
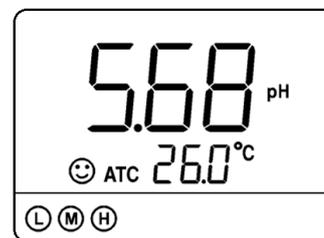
Figure - 3

3.5 Data storage, recall, and deletion

3.5.1 *Storage*

When the measurement is stable, press the [M+/RM] key, the meter displays **M+** icon and storage numberings on LCD, and stores the measuring data. In Figure-4, the meter stores the first group of the measuring data. Press [M+/RM] again to keep storing.
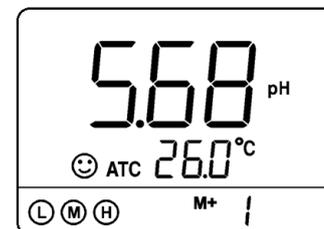
Figure - 4

3.5.2 *Recall stored data*

In the measurement mode, long press [M+/RM] key to recall the last stored Measuring data. The meter displays **RM** icon and storage numberings. In Figure-5, the meter is recalling the 28th stored measuring data. Keep pressing ⋀ and ⋁ to recall successively the stored measuring data. Press and hold ⋀ and ⋁ to quickly recall the stored measuring data. Short press [CAL/MEAS] to go back to measurement mode.
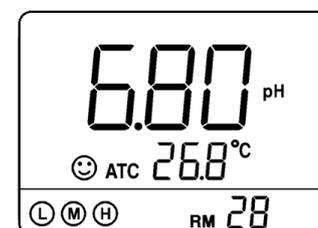
Figure - 5

3.5.3 *Clear stored data*

The meter can store 50 groups of data. Once the storage is full, if user presses [M+/RM] again, the **FUL** icon will be displayed on LCD (see Figure-6). The storage needs to be cleared in parameter setting P4 so as to keep storing data. The numberings in **M+** indicates the total number of stored data; The numberings in RM indicates the number of stored data in current mode (ph/mV). For example, if 20 groups of data is stored in pH mode, and 10 groups in mV mode, then the numberings for M+ will be "**M+30**" in both pH and mV mode; the numberings for RM in pH mode would be "**RM20**", in mV mode "**RM10**".
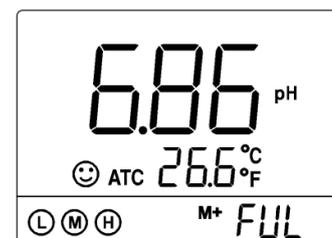
Figure - 6

3.6 Max/Min Function

Use this function to display the maximum or minimum records out of groups of measuring data. In measurement mode, press [MAX/MIN], LCD will display flashing icons of "**MAX/MIN**", indicating the meter has entered the mode of recording maximum and minimum data. After testing, press [MAX/MIN] again, LCD will alternately display the maximum and minimum value in the past measurements. Press [CAL/MEAS] to go back to regular measurement mode.

4 pH Measurement

4.1 Preparation

4.1.1 *Install the electrode holder*

The electrode holder is comosed of a metal stand base, a supporting pole, and a electrode clip. First, install the metal stand base to the meter (screw it on). Please note that the metal base can be installed on either side of the meter. Then install the supporting pole on the metal stand base, and then install the electrode clip on the supporting pole.

4.1.2 *Connect the power adapter*

Plug the power adapter tightly into the DC9V socket. The power's voltage should meet the requirements listed on the power adapter.

4.2 pH Electrode Information

4.2.1 *pH Electrode*

The meter comes with the 201T-F 3-in-I combination electrode with built-in temperature sensor, which enables the automatic temperature compensation. The electrode's housing adopts polycarbonate materials, which is resistant to shocks and corrosion.

4.2.2 *Electrode Connectors*

The pH electrode has two connectors: the BNC connector connects the pH sensor, the rca connector connets the temperature sensor. Plug these two connectors into 'pH/mV" and "TEMP" sockets. Please note not to pull the cables in case of poor contact. Please keep the connectors clean and dry. Refer to section 4.7 regarding how to properly maintain the pH electrode.

4.2.3 *Use the Electrode*

Stir the electrode for a few seconds after it's dipped into the solution and then let it stand still such that the bubbles inside the probe can be removed and a stable measurement can be quickly obtained.

4.3 Information regarding Calibration

4.3.1 *pH buffer solutions*

The meter adopts 2 series of standard buffer solutions: USA and NIST (see Table-2). They can be selected in parameter P1 (see 4.6.1).

Table-2

Calibration icon		pH standard buffer series	
		USA	NIST
3-Point calibration	Ⓛ	1.68 and 4.00 pH	1.68 and 4.01 pH
	Ⓜ	7.00 pH	6.86 pH
	Ⓗ	10.01 pH	9.18 pH

4.3.2 3-Point Calibration

The meter can adopt 1 to 3 points' calibration. The 1st point must be using 7.00 pH (or 6.86 pH) buffer solution, and then choose other buffers to do 2nd point and 3rd point. Please refer to Table-3 for details. In the process of calibration, the slope of acidity range and alkalinity range will be displayed.

Table-3 Calibration Mode

	USA	NIS	Calibration icon	When to adopt
1-Point Calibration	7.00 pH	6.86 pH	(M)	accuracy≤ ±0.1 pH
2-Point Calibration	7.00 pH and 4.00/1.68 pH	6.86 pH and 4.01/1.68 pH	(L)(M)	Measuring range: 0 to 7.00 pH
	7.00 pH and 10.01 pH	6.86 pH and 9.18 pH	(M)(H)	Measuring range: >7.00 pH
3-Point Calibration	7.00pH, 4.00/ 1.68 pH and 10.01 pH	6.86pH, 4.01/ 1.68pH, 9.18 pH	(L)(M)(H)	Wide measuring range

4.3.3 How often to calibrate

The frequency that you need to calibrate your meter depends on the tested samples, performace of electrodes, and the requirement of the accuracy. For High-Accuracy meaustements (≤ ±0.02pH), the meter should be calibrated before test every time; For ordinary-accuracy Measurements (≥±0.1pH), once calibrated, the meter can be used for about a week or longer. In the following cases, the meter must be re-calibrated:

a) The electrode hasn't been used for a long time or the electrode is brand new.

b) After measuring strong acid (pH<2) or strong base (pH>12) solutions.

c) After measuring fluoride-containing solution and strong organic solution

d) There is a big difference between the temperature of the test sample and the temperature of the buffer solution that is used in the last calibration.

4.4 pH Meter Calibration

1) Press [CAL/MEAS] to enter calibration mode. CAL1 icon will flash in the upper right corner of the LCD. 7.00 pH will flash in the lower right corner of the LCD, reminding you to use pH 7.00 buffer to conduct 1st point of calibration.

2) Use distilled or pure water to rinse off electrode and then dry it (with a tissue). Dip it into pH 7.00 buffer solution, stir gently and let it stand still and wait for the reading to become stable. In the lower right corner of LCD, the process of auto recognizing the buffer solution will be displayed. Pressing [ENTER] before the buffer is recognized will generate Er2 (please refer to table 5).

3) When the meter locks 7.00 pH in the lower right corner, stable icon ☺ displays on LCD. Then press [ENTER] key to calibrate the meter. **End** icon appears after calibration is done.

The 1st point calibration is finished. In the meanwhile, CAL2 will flash at the upper right corner, and 4.00 pH & 10.01 pH will flash alternately at the bottom right, indicating using pH4.00 or pH10.01 buffer solution to make the 2nd point calibration.

4) Take out the pH electrode, rinse it in distilled water, dry it, and dip it into pH 4.00 buffer solution. Stir the solution gently and let stand still in the buffer solution until a stable reading is reached. The meter's display will show the recognition process of calibration buffer solution at the lower right corner. When the meter recognizes 4.00 pH, stable ☺ icon displays on LCD. Press [ENTER] key to calibrate the meter. **End** icon and electrode slope of acidity range will be displayed after calibration is done. In the meanwhile, CL3 will flash at the upper right corner of the LCD, and 10.01 pH will flash at the lower right, indicating using pH10.01 buffer solution to make the 3rd point calibration.

5) Take out pH electrode, rinse it in distilled water, dry it, and dip it into pH 10.01 buffer solution. Stir the solution gently and let it stand still in the buffer solution until a stable reading is reached. The meter's display will show recognition process of calibration buffer solution at the bottom right of LCD. When the meter recognizes 10.01 pH, stable ☺ icon displays on LCD. Press [ENTER] key to calibrate the meter. **End** icon and electrode slope of alkalinity range display after calibration is done. The meter returns to the measurement mode, the calibration icons **L M H** will be displayed. Please see Figure-7 for the above calibration process.
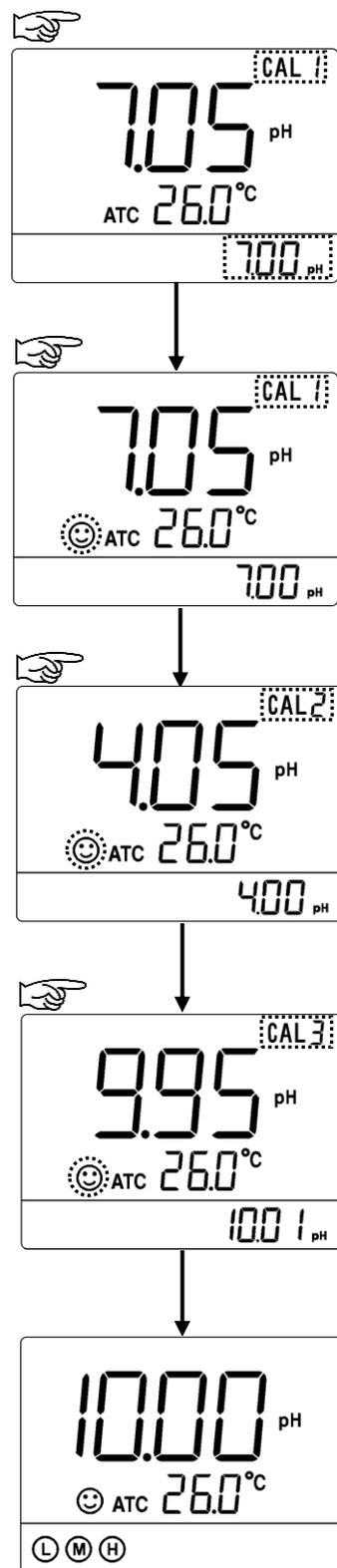
Figure-7

6) During the calibration process, press [CAL MEAS] key to exit from the calibration mode. The meter can perform one-point, two-point and three-point calibration. Calibration guide icons appear on LCD.

4.5 pH Measurement

4.5.1 Rinse the pH electrode in distilled water or pure water, dry it, and dip it into sample solution. Stir the solution gently and let it stand still in the sample solution until ☺ icon appears and stays on LCD, get the pH reading, which is pH value of sample solution, please refer to Figure-8 for calibration and measurement process of the pH meter.

Figure-8 Calibration and measurement process of pH meter
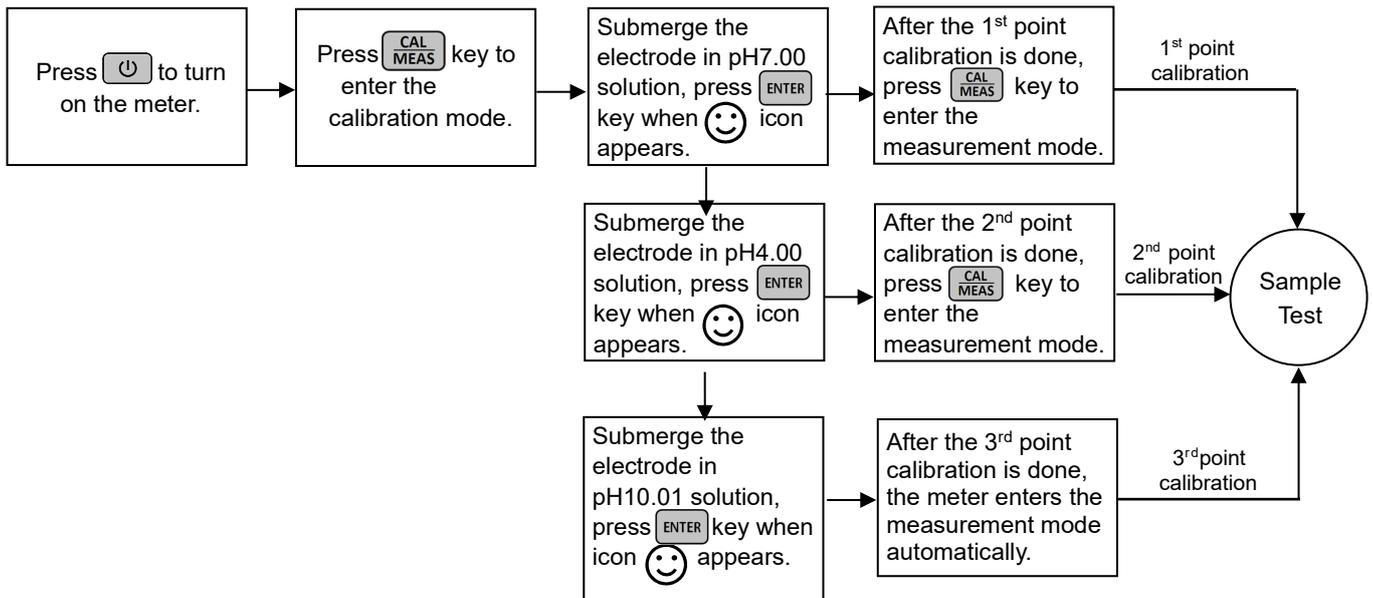
1.5.2 According to the pH isothermal measurement principle, the closer the test sample's temperature is to the calibration solution's, the higher the accuracy of the measurement. So this principle is recommended to follow when conducting tests.

1.5.3 The instrument has a function to return to factory default setting, which can be set up in P5 (refer to section 4.6.2). Returning to factory default setting is to restore the meter to theoretical value (zero potential pH is 7.00, slope is 100%), and set all the parameters to default settings. When the meter's calibration or measurement is performing abnormally, users can use this function to let the meter return to factory default mode, and then conduct calibration and test again. Please note that this function is irreversible once used.

1.5.4 Self-Diagnosis

In the process of calibration and measurement, the meter has a self-diagnosis function. Please see table 5.

Table – 5 Self-diagnosis Information

Display Icons	Contents	How to fix
Er1	Wrong pH buffer solution or the buffer solution is out of range.	1. Check whether pH buffer solution are correct. 2. Check whether the meter connects the electrode properly. 3. Check whether the electrode is damaged.
Er2	pH electrode zero electric potential out of range (<-60mV or >60mV)	1. Make sure there is no bubble in the electrode's bulb. 2. Check if pH buffer solutions are correct. 3. Replace the pH electrode with a new one.
Er3	pH electrode slope is out of range (<85% or >110%)	
Er4	Press [ENTER] key when measuring value is not stable during calibration.	Press [ENTER] key when ☺ icon appears and stays.
Er5	During calibration, the measuring value is not stable for ≥3min.	1. Make sure there is no bubble in the electrode's bulb. 2. Replace the pH electrode with a new one.

4.6 Parameter Setting

Table-6

Symbol	Parameter setting content	Parameter	Factory default setting
P1	Select pH buffer series	USA - NIST	USA
P2	Select resolution	0.1/0.01 pH	0.01 pH
P3	Select temperature unit	℃ - ℉	℃
P4	Clear stored data	No-Yes	No
P5	Return to factory default	No-Yes	No

4.6.1 How to do the parameter setting:

In measurement mode, long press [MODE STEUP] to enter parameter setting P1. Then press (∧) to change menu from P1 to P2…P5. For details, please see Table-7.

Table-7 pH Parameter Setting

P1 USA	P1 — Select pH buffer series (USA— NIS) 1. Long press [MODE STEUP] to enter P1. 2. Press [ENTER] , USA flashes, press (∧) to select USA or NIS, press [ENTER] to confirm; USA — USA Series , NIS — NIST Series 3. Press (∧) to enter P2 or press [CAL MEAS] to return to measurement mode.

P2 0.01 ph	P2 — Select resolution (0.01—0.1) 1. Press ENTER, 0.01 flashes, press ⋀ to select 0.01 or 0.1, press ENTER To confirm; 2. Press ⋀ to enter P3 or press CAL/MEAS to return to measurement mode.
P3 °C	P3 — Select temperature unit (°C—°F) 1. Press ENTER , °C flashes, press ⋀ to select °C or °F, press ENTER To confirm; 2. Press ⋀ to enter P4 or press CAL/MEAS to return to measurement mode.
P4 no CLr	P4 — Clear stored data (No—Yes) 1. Press ENTER , "No" flashes, press ⋀ to select No or Yes, press ENTER To confirm; 2. Press ⋀ to enter P5 or press CAL/MEAS to return to measurement mode.
P5 no	P5 — Restore to factory default setting (No—Yes) 1. Press ENTER , "No" flashes, press ⋀ to select No to Yes, press ENTER To confirm; The meter returns to measurement mode. 2. If not selecting "Yes", press CAL/MEAS to return to measurement mode.

4.7 pH Electrode's Maintenance

4.7.1. Daily maintenance

The soaking solution contained in the supplied protective bottle is used to maintain activation in the glass bulb and junction. Loosen the capsule, remove the electrode and rinse in distilled or pure water before taking a measurement. Insert the electrode and tighten the capsule after measurements to prevent the solution from leaking. If the soaking solution is turbid or moldy, replace the KCL solution. (Preparation: 26g KCL dissolved in 100ml pure water).

The electrode should not be soaked in pure or distilled water, protein solution or acid fluoride solution for long periods of time. In addition, do not soak the electrode in organic lipids.

4.7.2. Calibration buffer solution

For calibration accuracy, the pH of the standard buffer solution must be reliable. The buffer solution should be refreshed often, especially after heavy use. We recommend 10-15 times of use before replacing the pH buffers.

4.7.3 Protect glass bulb

The sensitive glass bulb at the front of the combination electrode should not come in contact with hard surfaces. Scratches or cracks on the electrode will cause inaccurate readings. Before and after each measurement, the electrode should be washed with pure water and dried. If a sample sticks to the electrode or it's contaminated, the electrode should be thoroughly cleaned using a soft brush and then rinsed with pure water. After that, soak it in the KCL solution again for 6 hours.

4.7.4 Renew glass bulb

Electrodes that have been used over a long period of time will become aged. Submerge the electrode in 0.1mol/L hydrochloric acid for 24 hours, then wash the electrode in pure water, then submerge it in KCL soaking solution for 24 hours.

The method to prepare 0.1mol/L hydrochloric acid: dilute 9mL hydrochloric acid in pure water to 1000mL.

For serious passivation, submerge the bulb in 4% HF (hydrofluoric acid) for 3-5 seconds, and wash it in pure water, then submerge it in the soaking solution for 24 hours to renew it.

4.7.5. Clean contaminated glass bulb and junction (please refer to Table-8)

Table-8 Clean contaminated glass bulb and junction

Contamination	Cleaning Solutions
Inorganic metal oxide	Dilute acid less than 1mol/L
Organic lipid	Dilute detergent (weak alkaline)
Resin macromolecule	Dilute alcohol, acetone, ether
Proteinic haematocyte sediment	Acidic enzymatic solution (saccharated yeast tablets)
Paints	Dilute bleacher, peroxide

Notes:

1) **The instruments will NOT give accurate and stable pH readings when testing distilled or deionized water. This because distilled and deionized water do not have enough ions present for the electrode to function properly. To measure distilled or deionized water's pH, users need to use a specialized electrode.**

2) **The electrode housing is polycarbonate. When using cleaning solutions, take cautions on carbon tetrachloride, trichlorethylene, tetrahydrofuran, acetone, etc., which will dissolve the housing and invalidate the electrode.**

5 mV measurement

5.1 ORP measurement

Press [MODE/STEUP] key, and switch the meter to mV measurement mode. Connect ORP electrode (the 301Pt-C combination ORP electrode is sold separately) and dip it in sample solution, stir the solution briefly and allow it to stay in the solution until ☺ icon appears and get the reading.

ORP means Oxidation Reduction Potential. The unit is mV.

5.2 Notes on ORP measurement

5.2.1 ORP measurement does not require calibration. When the user is not sure about ORP electrode quality or measuring value, use ORP standard solution to test mV value and see whether ORP electrode or meter works properly. Table-9 is the data of standard ORP solution for 222 mV.

Table-9

°C	10	15	20	25	30	35	38	40
mV	242	235	227	222	215	209	205	201

5.2.2 Clean and activate ORP electrode

After the electrode has been used over a long period of time, the platinum surface will get polluted which causes inaccurate measurement and slow response. Please refer to the following methods to clean and activate ORP electrode:

(a) For inorganic pollutant, submerge the electrode in 0.1mol/L dilute hydrochloric acid for 30 minutes, then wash it in pure water, then submerge it in the soaking solution for 6 hours.

(b) For organic or lipid pollutant, clean the platinum surface with detergent, then wash it in pure water, then submerge it in the soaking solution for 6 hours.

(c) For heavily polluted platinum surface on which there is oxidation film, polish the platinum surface with toothpaste, then wash it in pure water, then submerge it in the soaking solution for 6 hours.

6   Complete Kit

	Content	Quantity
6.1	PH700 Benchtop pH Meter	1
6.2	201T-F Plastic 3-in-1 Combination pH Electrode	1
6.3	pH standard buffer solutions (4.00/7.00/10.01 pH; (50ml for each)	1 for each
6.4	9V Power Adapter	1
6.5	Electrode Holder	1 set
6.6	Instruction Manual	1

7 Warranty

We warrant this instrument to be free from defects in material and workmanship and agree to repair or replace free of charge, at option of APERA INSTRUMENTS, LLC, any malfunctioned or damaged product attributable to responsibility of APERA INSTRUMENTS, LLC for a period of **two years** from the delivery (a **six-month** limited warranty applies to probes). This warranty does not apply to defects resulting from actions such as misuse (violation of the instructions in this manual or operations in the manner not specified in this manual), improper maintenance, or unauthorized repairs. Warranty period is the time limit to provide free service for the products purchased by customers, not the service life of the tester or probe.

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