Figure 7.37 shows the cumulative percent sulfur and carbonates weathered at the end of 14 weeks of leaching for the five rocks examined in this study. The plot represents data from four labs, and the duplicate columns. Other than the Brush Creek Shale all the samples at the end of 14 weeks had weathered more calcite than pyrite. The Brush Creek seems to have carbonate and pyrite weathering at about the same rate.

The diagonal black line on Figure 7.37 is drawn where carbonate weathering equals pyrite weathering. Even though there were weathering rate differences among the labs, the sample results for a given rock type cluster together. That is, the differences among labs are less than the differences between rock types. The one sample that displays extreme scatter is the LKFC-PA shale, which in some labs remained alkaline, while in others, by the end of the test, the water was acidic. Thus there were big differences in the rate of weathering among the labs for this sample. Figure 7.37 illustrates that the laboratories produced very similar results with similar predictions for a given rock type.

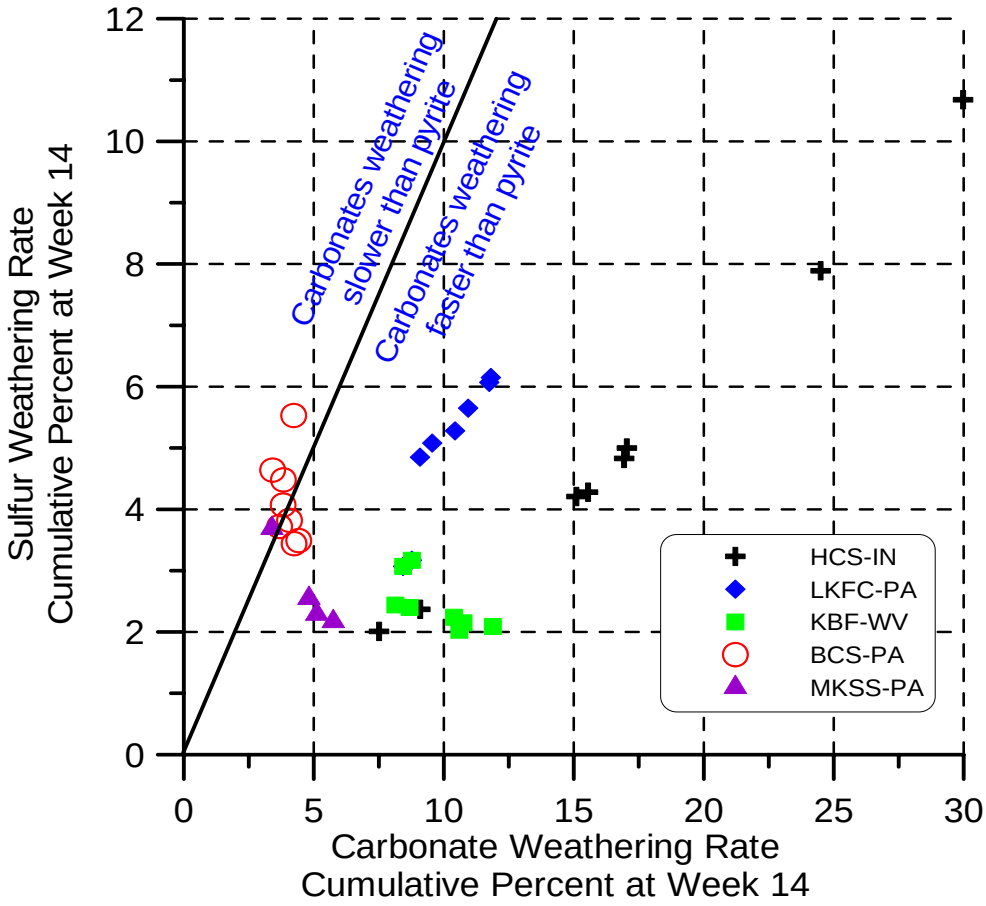

Figure 7.37. Comparison of weathering rates for pyrite and carbonates for five rock types by four laboratories. Most rock types are represented by eight points (two columns each lab), the exception being the MKSS-PA, where there was a single column in each lab.