

APPLICATION NOTE

Online Monitoring of Water in Acetic Acid Using a ClearView® db Photometer

Purpose

To determine water content in acetic acid with sample temperature correction.

Approach

A full spectrum NIR spectrometer was used to measure the spectra of 0-15% water in acetic acid at various temperatures in a 5 mm cuvette cell.

Results

The resulting spectra are shown in Figure 1. Minimum temperature sensitivity is found at 1420 nm. (vertical line). Excellent linearity is achieved (see Figure 2) in the range tested, up to 15% water. Our GUIDED WAVE™ ClearView® db Photometer is able to measure water in acetic acid to better than 0.1% under isothermal conditions.

The absorbance of water is known to change as a function of temperature, and this will change the reported water content. This relationship is shown in the graph in Figure 3. Changing the temperature by 5 °C from the target temperature of 50 °C changes the absorbance by about 0.010, or 10 mAU. From the above calibration, this means a change in the reported water value by 0.15%, or about 0.03%/°C. By measuring the sample temperature with an RTD element, bringing the signal back into the ClearView db (through an intrinsic safety barrier for hazardous environments), and including a temperature coefficient in the ClearView db, a precision of 0.05-0.1% water in acetic acid can be achieved.

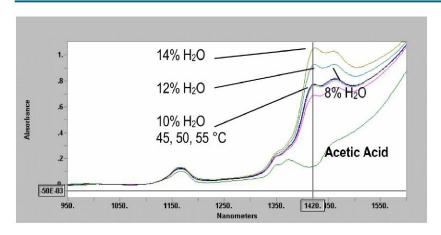


Figure 1

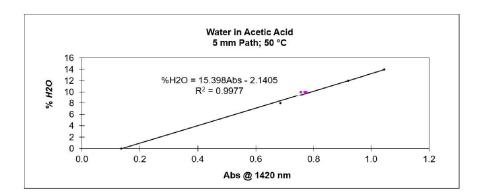


Figure 2

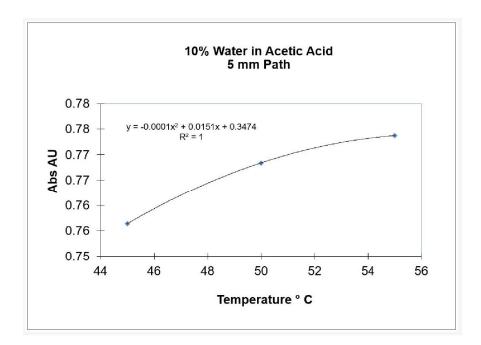


Figure 3

Conclusion

Our ClearView db Photometer with sample temperature correction can achieve 0.1% precision for the measurement of water in acetic acid on-line. Visit the Process Insights website for more information on this analyzer and related applications.



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