

Process Analytical Technologies -Functional and Non-Functional Requirements in AgriFood

EPIC Technology Meeting on Photonics for AgriFood Industry Enlightening the Future at DigiFoods 24-25 April 2024, Oslo, Norway

Introduction tec5 AG, Germany

Spectrometer Systems for the Agri and Food Industry

- We are a manufacturer of high-performance spectrometer technology
- With our wide portfolio, tec5 provides standardized spectrometer components, system components and fully integrated systems
- tec5 is based in Steinbach, Germany, close to Frankfurt Main
- tec5 is member of the Nynomic group

"Integrating precise and robust measurements, even under tough environmental conditions, is key to an optimized production process."





Introduction tec5 AG, Germany

Spectrometer Systems for the Agri and Food Industry

Solutions for

- 100% inspection of all goods
- Real time control and monitoring
- · Inline, online, at-line, handheld
- In the process, on the field and integrated into the production machine
- UV, VIS, NIR and Raman technology

"To solve the various challenges of non-functional requirements is key to successfully implement optical technologies in production and field environment."





Solving functional and non-functional requirements Definition:

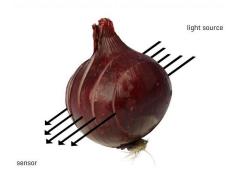
"Functional requirements define what a system is supposed to do, and non-functional requirements define how a system is supposed to be."



What are functional and non-functional requirements?

Functional Requirements

- Wavelength range and resolution
- Detector type
- Measurement geometry and light source design
- Multichannel setup
- Data pre-treatment and processing
- Process control integration
- Transferability of calibrations
- Measurement speed





What are functional and non-functional requirements?

Non-Functional Requirements

- IP Ingree Protection
- Installation dimensions
- Hygienic design (material, surface finish, design...)
- Environmental temperature
- Vibration robustness
- Ex class (e.g., powder-Ex)
- Legal requirements (CE / EMC / UL etc.)
- Maintainability und usability





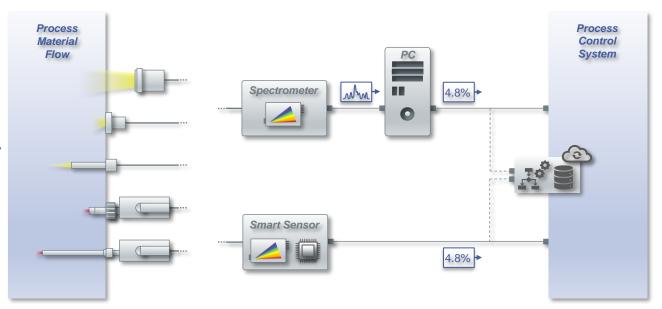
Range of Products

Comprehensive solutions from sample presentation to PLC interfaces with both the



• PC Line
and

Embedded Line



Example of inline color measurement on cocoa mass

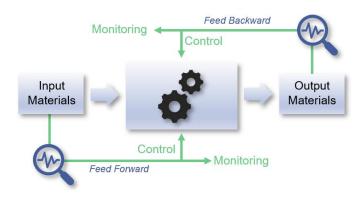
Project Scope

- Digitalization of the process using data of a color and NIR sensor,
 other production data and AI-based modelling of the control parameters
- Different cacao masses are produced with different color specs
- Variation of raw beans caused by origin and season
- Adjusting process steps alkalization and roasting in real time to reach the right colour spec

Project goal

"Improve process control as a function of raw material variations and, as a result, optimize end-product consistency"







Example of inline color measurement on cocoa mass

Specifications of the Installation Requirements at Customer Site:

- Installation in process stream 24/7/365
- Temperature in and around pipe: range 110 +/- 10°C
- Food requirements
- Output color values (LCH values)
- Process Interface OPC-UA





Example of inline color measurement on cocoa mass

Technical Challenges and Solution

- 24/7/365 with direct integration in the process stream
- Measuring head with integrated reference
- Offers cyclically referencing to ensure long-term stability
- Measuring head needs to withstand 110°C at the sensor installation point
- High-temperature materials and components
- Measuring head needs to be food compliant
- Saphire window is secured against falling out by design
- Food compliant material used



Conclusion

- Various non-functional requirements have to be taken into account when bringing optical technology in production and field environment
- To meet those requirements is essential for a successful implementation in the long run
- A standard toolbox is available to cover those requirements
- And if necessary, the toolbox can be customized according application specific requirements





Thank you for your attention

Questions?

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