# **Novel NDIR Sensors for Multi-Gas Sensing**





MEMBER OF THE NYNOMIC GROUP

Thirteen powerful brands within the Nynomic Group ensure successful solution development





Dr.-Ing. Oliver Pust —m-u-t GmbH — EPIC TechWatch at W3+ Fair in Wetzlar on 14 March 2024.

Thirteen Brands – One Product Portfolio The whole spectrum of non-destructive optical measurement!





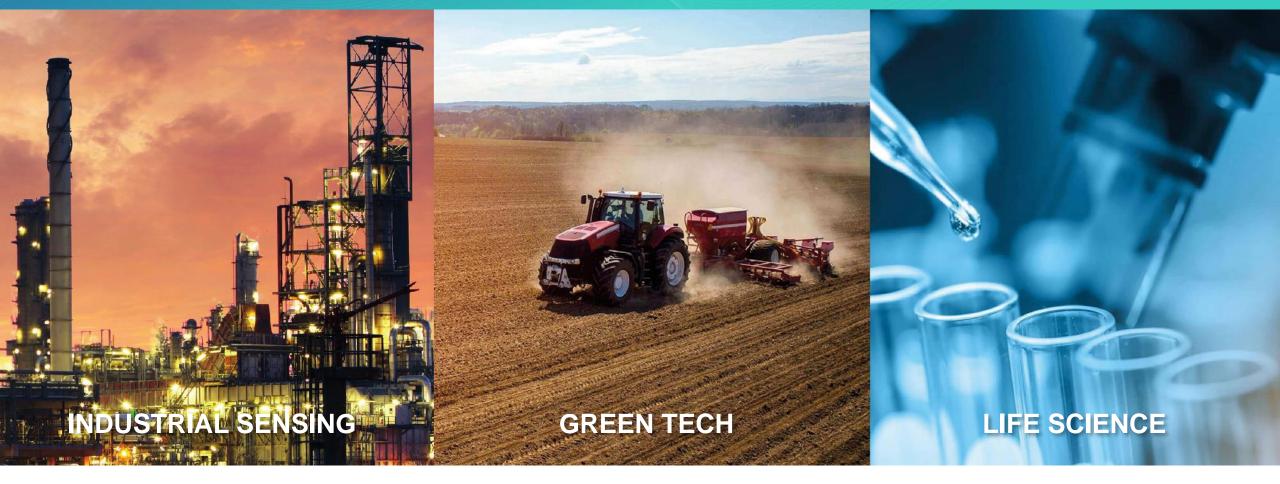
## **Brief overview of m-u-t GmbH**





## Growing markets within the m-u-t GmbH: Spectrometric measurement and automation technology





- Gas Sensing
- Fire Detection
- Transportation

- Agricultural Technology
- Environmental Technology

- Medical Technology
- Lab Automation

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## Spectrometer systems for production control... ...safeguarding your investment





#### **Example 1: Early fire detection**

- Patented integrated distance measurement to initiate extinguishing / cooling optimally and to enable maximum extinguishing agent output per m<sup>2</sup>
- Unique object recognition, detection of the smallest possible hot spots despite large, moving and permitted heat sources (e.g. wheel loader, truck exhaust, ...)
- Investment safe and expandable
- Proven continuous operation (24/7) under the most adverse environmental conditions
- Active cooling for continuous operation at up to 70 ° C
- VdS G 220008 approval

#### Example 2: Multi-gas sensor for hydrocarbons

- Infrared Multi-Gas Sensor using NDIR-Technology
- No chemical reaction in the Multi-Gas Sensor, no on-site test gases required,
  no moving parts, therefore durable and long-term stable
  - 8 gases in one sensor no cross-sensitivities
  - CO, CO2, CH4, C2H2, C2H4, C2H6, C3H8, C4H10, gas humidity (water, H2O) and many more are detected
- Up to 6 additional sensor modules possible, such as: H2, O2, temperature (T), relative humidity (RH), acceleration (a) and pressure (p)





## Application example: Enhancing Transformer Safety... ... with Dissolved Gas Analysis (DGA)



- Insulation oil is used in high-power transformers
- Insulation oil breaks down over time, liberating gases
- Concentration of dissolved gases and their ratios indicate types of deterioration, such as pyrolysis or partial discharge
- Rate of gas generation indicates severity
- DGA is used for preventive maintenance
- DGA usually consists of sampling the oil and sending the sample to a laboratory for analysis
- Mobile DGA units can be transported and used on site as well; some units can be directly connected to a transformer



- Online monitoring of electrical equipment is an integral part of the smart grid
- Online monitoring is possible with m-u-t's multi-gas sensor
- Oxygen O2, Hydrogen H2, Methane CH4, Ethane C2H6, Propane, C2H8, Ethylene C2H4, Acetylene C2H2, Carbon Monoxide CO, Carbon Dioxide CO2 are detected simultaneously

## m-u-t OEM multi-gas Platform



#### **OEM** multi-gas sensor with NDIR technology

- Multi reflection White cell (named after J. U. White)
- Compact design with high absorption length
- Measuring range: a few ppm to several thousand ppm for many typical gases
- m-u-t proprietary 9-channel detector
- 1 reference channel
- 8 free channels: optimally adaptable to the measurement requirements of our OEM customers / OEM products by OEM filter equipment
- No chemical reaction in the multi-gas sensor
- No onsite test gases necessary
- No moving parts, therefore durable and long-term stable
- 8 channels/gases in one sensor no/minimal cross sensitivities
- Filters for e.g. CO, CO2, CH4, C2H2, C2H4, C2H6, C3H8, C4H10, gas humidity (water, H2O)



## m-u-t OEM multi-gas Platform



## Up to 6 positions for conventional physical or chemical sensors

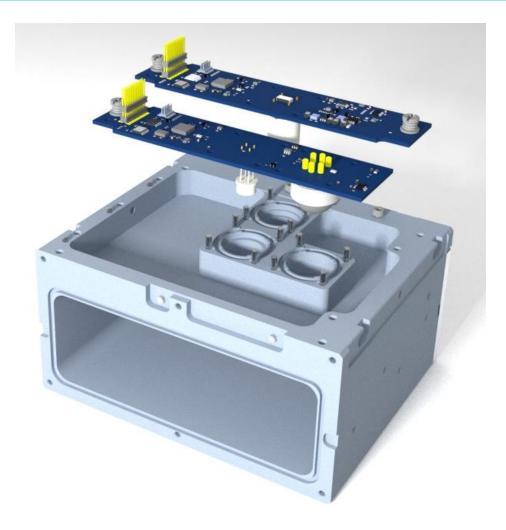
- H2, O2 or similar
- Temperature (T)
- Relative humidity (RH)
- Pressure (p)

#### Measurement outside of the gas chamber

- Acceleration (a)
- Pressure (p)
- Temperature (T)

#### Interfaces

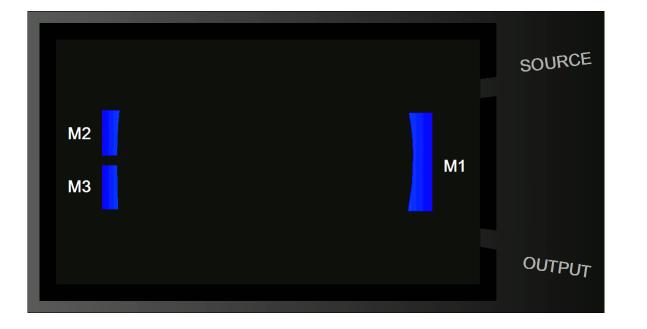
- Power supply 24 VDC
- Data RS422 (RS485 optional)
- Process interface:
  - Flexible or rigid pipe connection
  - Flange
  - Specific adaptations
- Interface for temperature control (option)

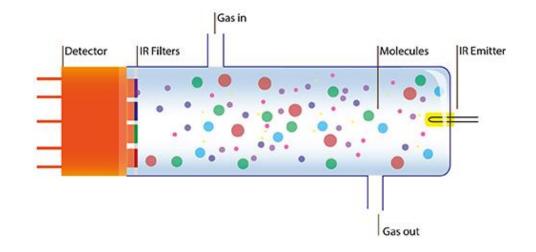


## What is NDIR? And how does it work?



- Broadband IR-emitter
- Gas cuvette with suited absorption length
- Broadband IR-detector with dielectric bandpass filters
- White cell to keep the module compact





Absorption follows the Beer-Lambert law, depending mainly on gas concentration and absorption length

$$\log\left(\frac{I_0}{I}\right) = \varepsilon_{\lambda} \times c \times l \quad (Beer-Lambert \, law)$$

https://www.lasercomponents.com/de/anwendung/ndir-gasanalyse/, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a3/Spectra/calc infrared bands.png, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multipass\_spectroscopic\_absorption\_cells#//media/File:White\_cell\_with\_eight\_traversals\_(spectroscopy).gif, https://studyfilix.de/chemie/lambert-beersches-gesetz-1568

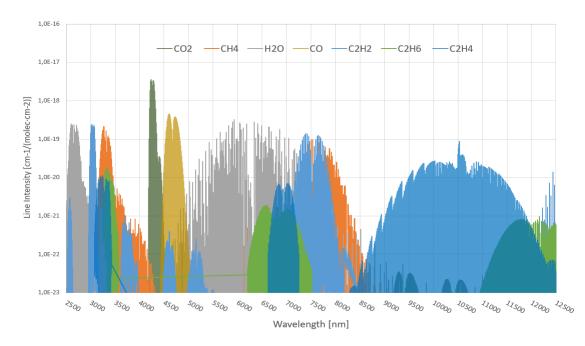
## Gas absorption spectra Compensation of cross-sensitivities



#### Internal compensation of cross-sensitivities

- Many NDIR channels have cross sensitivities with other gases
- Some are quite strong
- By measuring all interfering gas components simultaneously, cross-sensitivity compensation can be done within the multi-gas sensor
- NDIR channels can be compensated by other NDIR channels
- NDIR channels can be compensated by conventional sensors (e.g. humidity, temperature, pressure)
- Conventional sensors can be compensated by NDIR channels or other sensors.

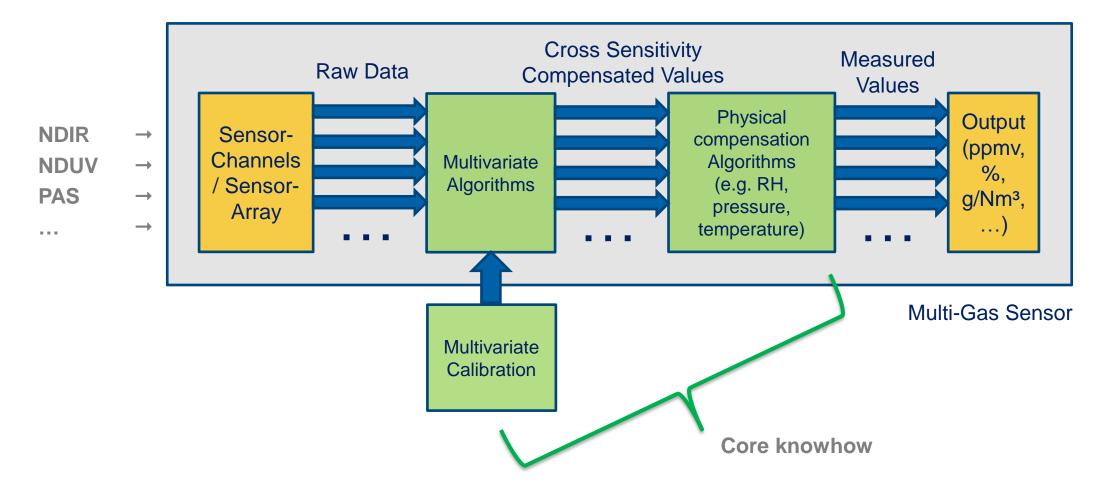
The algorithms of the compensation are created with a multi-parameter calibration procedure (multivariate calibration).



## m-u-t OEM Multi-gas Platform Multivariate software is at the core



#### Functional Multi-Gas Platform Block Diagram



## What can m-u-t do for EPIC members and their customers?



- Develop product ideas and bring them into series production as an OEM manufacturer
- Integrate IR detectors and IR emitters with other measurement principles to OEM sensor modules
- Support and spar with extensive knowledge of gas measurement technology
- Provide spectroscopy solutions from UV to MIR

## What can EPIC members do for m-u-t?



- Approach m-u-t as a development and manufacturing partner for new projects
- Challenge m-u-t with ideas for applications of multi-gas sensors

## Contact Your point of contact for Gas Sensing





# Thank you for your attention!



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