

ΡΙСΛ R R O

Novel, real-time measurements of VOCs using a Cavity Ring-Down Spectrometer (CRDS)

EGU Annual Conference & Exhibition

D3295 | EGU2020-20831

Gregor Lucic¹, Chris Rella¹, John Hoffnagle¹, Kai Skog¹ and Laurie McHale¹

glucic@picarro.com

¹Picarro Inc, 3105 Patrick Henry Drive, Santa Clara, California 95054

OVERVIEW

- Overview of novel Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy
- Measurements of VOCs
- Introduction to Ethylene Oxide (EtO)
- Performance Overview (EtO)
- Application Overview
- Summary



CAVITY RING-DOWN SPECTROSCOPY (CRDS)



(or absorbing at measuring frequency)

Gas molecules in cavity (gas absorbing at measuring frequency)

PICARRO

CRDS Today and Tomorrow



ΡΙCΔRRO

VOC characterization



ΡΙርΔϜκυ

VOC characterization - Speciation



VOC Summary



ΡΙCΔRRO

ETHYLENE OXIDE

- Volatile Organic Compound
- Common chemical (14th most-produced organic compound)
- Uses:
 - Large scale chemical production (textile industry, detergents, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals, perfumes, and others)
 - **Medical sterilization** (equipment, instruments, packaging materials, clothing, surgical equipment, and others)
- Properties:
 - Colorless gas with a sweet odor
 - Highly reactive (used in thermobaric weapons ...)
 - Toxic substance, mutagenic properties, Group 1 carcinogen

ΡΙCΛRRO

ETHYLENE OXIDE IN THE NEWS



ΡΙCΛRRO

PRECISION AND STABILITY



- Typical zero drift over 72 hours = 120 ppt (peak-to-peak 50-minute average, no zero correction)
- Typical precision at 2 seconds = **350 ppt**
- Typical precision at 300 seconds = **30 ppt** (1-sigma)

PICARRO

LIMIT OF DETECTION



• Blue line = 30-second moving average of the measurement

PICARRO

- Red circles = average of each 15-minute step. The standard deviation of the 15-minute steps is just 34 ppt.
- From the dataset, a **typical limit of detection of 75 ppt** can be determined (k=2, 95% confidence).



RESPONSE TIME



ΡΙСΔ R R O

APPLICATION OVERVIEW



PICARRO

SUMMARY

- Picarro has developed a CRDS analyzer that can measure and detect VOCs emissions at ppb and ppt levels, in real-time (interval of 1-2 seconds).
- The precision, stability and LDL of the analyzer makes it suitable for source and ambient emissions characterization.
- Picarro is excited to support researchers and services providers as the need for EtO measurements evolves and increases.
- Interested in learning more about your real-time VOC needs.

Thank you!

Gregor Lucic, glucic@picarro.com

www.picarro.com

ΡΙCΛRRO