

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**PHYSICAL, STRUCTURAL AND
PERFORMANCE ANALYSES FOR
CONFORMITY OF POLYMERIC
PAINTS AND OTHER PRODUCTS**

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ABSTRACT

Several improvements on the experimental procedures, data processing and results interpretation were done for various types of paints in different storage times and storage conditions for the practicality of the FTIR conformity analysis of the polymeric paint. The reproducibility and reliability of the results from FTIR conformity analysis were then supported with statistical test, physical test and performance test. In this study, four protective coating systems with several industry grade of raw materials and its polymeric paints, which are commonly used in oil and gas industry were collected from five reputable paint manufacturers. The first section of the study describes the process in determining the suitable method to be implemented as an additional QA/QC practice for protective paints. Based on the data analysis from several scientific analyses (*i.e.* TGA, DSC, Raman, Far-IR), ATR-FTIR is still more practical and cost effective to be used for monitoring the paint quality, either in the testing laboratory as well as on-site verification. It shows the incorporation of spectra matching and/or degree of similarity (r values) of FTIR spectra obtained from ATR-FTIR technique for the FTIR conformity analysis are reliable and reproducible ($r \geq 0.900 \pm 0.002$) compared to assignment band table and curve-fitting. The curve fitting able to differentiate two mixtures/compounds with different compositions, however, the inconsistency of replicate values implies the need for skillful analyst. The second section describes the refinement of the experimental procedure, data processing and results interpretation for the FTIR conformity analysis. This section deduces the applicability of (1) three significant figures of r values and (2) universal FTIR fingerprint region, 2000-900 cm^{-1} for FTIR conformity analysis as the statistical analysis criteria is fulfilled (t -statistic $< t$ -critical and p -value > 0.05). The former standardizes the data presentation for accuracy while the latter replace the predecessor approach on using various selective or specific fingerprint regions that depends on the type of functional groups in the paint. Besides, it also demonstrates that the handheld FTIR is only opted as a screening tool whereas the benchtop FTIR is to be used for verification purposes in order to avoid approximately 20 % false rejection rate due to sensitivity of the spectrophotometer. The third section highlights the preventive measures to minimize the error of the FTIR conformity analysis which related to (1) sampling drying as the lid open and close multiple times, (2) generation of Reference spectrum without background scanning and pre-screening FTIR spectra, and (3) location of storage device of FTIR spectra that influence the generated r -values. The fourth section discusses on the reproducibility and reliability of the FTIR conformity analysis for different types of paints in variation of storage times and storage conditions. The incorporation of pre-installed Reference spectrum (generated from fresh paint spectra) into the FTIR software shows that the properly stored retained paints passed both the acceptance criterion of FTIR conformity test ($r > 0.900$) and statistical test, unlike improperly stored retained paints where $r \ll 0.900$ are always observed. Moreover, the similar procedure of FTIR conformity analysis using mid-IR for raw materials of the paints is also comparatively practical. The last section describes the adoption and usefulness part of the procedures for commercial polymeric and organic-based products in authentication analysis to differentiate product replicas (purchased from unauthorized retailer) from real products (purchased from authorized retailer) as the $r < 0.500$ are generated.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS	ii
AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	xii
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xvii
LIST OF NOMENCLATURE	xix
CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Research Background	1
1.1.1 Reformulation/ adulteration of paints	1
1.1.2 Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy for conformity analysis of paints	2
1.2 Motivation	4
1.3 Problem Statement	5
1.4 Objectives of the study	6
1.5 Scope and limitation of the study	7
1.6 Significance of the study	7
CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW	8
2.1 Paint	8
2.1.1 Composition of Paints	8
2.1.2 Coating Systems	13
2.2 Coating Fingerprinting	14
2.2.1 Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR)	14
2.2.2 Related standards	16

2.2.3	Compare algorithm of conformity analysis	17
2.2.4	Coating fingerprinting certification	19
CHAPTER THREE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY		21
3.1	Sample collection	21
3.2	Sample coding	22
3.3	Thermogravimetry analyzer (TGA) analysis of paint raw materials	23
3.4	Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) analysis of paint raw materials	23
3.5	Raman analysis of paint raw materials	23
3.6	Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) analysis of raw materials and its polymeric paints	23
3.7	Statistical analysis of the FTIR analysis	26
3.8	Physical tests of polymeric paints	30
3.9	Performance tests of dried coatings	30
CHAPTER FOUR RESULTS AND DISCUSSION		33
4.1	Can other scientific analyses besides FTIR analysis be used to monitor the consistency of batch-to-batch protective paints	33
4.2	FTIR qualitative analyses for QA/QC of protective paints	38
4.3	Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) authentication and batch-to-batch consistency for different types of paints using benchtop and handheld FTIR spectrophotometers for oil and gas industry	42
4.4	Sampling precautions in relation to FTIR fingerprinting for paints – Precaution 1	59
4.5	Good practice for generation of Reference FTIR spectrum for Coating Fingerprint Certificate – Precaution 2	63
4.6	The effect of storage device of FTIR spectra on the degree of similarity using <i>compare</i> algorithm for paint fingerprinting – Precaution 3	68
4.7	FTIR fingerprinting and performance comparison for rapid authentication of fresh, aged and expired polymeric paints under different storage conditions	72
4.8	FTIR structural consistency for (in)organic raw materials and its wet paints	91
4.9	FTIR fingerprinting for polymeric and organic-based products from (un)authorized retailers	110