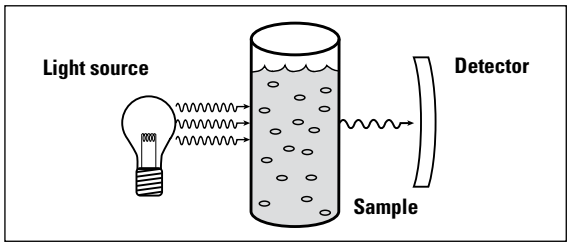
Optical Measurement

Light

When light passes through a liquid, the amount of particles and color in solution will affect the light. Optical techniques measure solution characteristics by using a defined light source, passing the light through a sample, and then measuring the light that passes through the sample. Turbidimetric and colorimetric methods both involve measuring the resulting light intensity. They differ in that the light is attenuated by scattering in turbidimetry and by absorption in colorimetry.

Both determinations may use similar instrumentation. By employing different wavelengths of light and different optical configurations, we can optimize the system for determining the transmitted light of interest for a given analytical method.



Turbidimetry

The cloudiness in a liquid caused by the presence of finely divided, suspended material is called "turbidity." Turbidity meters provide a means of quantifying this "cloudiness" by determining the reduction of light passing through a turbid solution and then comparing the results against a standard. In some applications, the clarity of solution is critical. In other applications the appearance of particles indicates bacterial growth. In either case, the turbidimeter provides process numerical data on the sample solution.

Colorimetry

The colorimetric method of chemical analysis involves the measurement of light absorption by colored solutions. While the differences in color development are visible to the human eye, visual determination is subject to user interpretation. Colorimeters eliminate the differences encountered with color comparitors to produce an exact numerical value—with greater resolution than can be achieved through comparitors. Colorimeters use the well-understood principals of wet chemistry to provide precise, repeatable analysis methods. For example, the standard DPD method for determining free and total chlorine is well accepted and approved by the US EPA.

Reagents and Accessories

Reliable reagents and standards ensure accurate measurement for turbidimeters and colorimeters

Turbidity Calibration Set

For use with the T-100 turbidity meter sold on page 64. Stable standards ensure accurate turbidity measurements.

Catalog number	Description	Included
WD-35635-50	Calibration set	60 mL each of primary calibration standard 0.02, 20.0, 100, and 800 NTU

Secondary Chlorine Standards

Verify performance of your C201, C301; or C401 colorimeters (see page 65).

Catalog number	Description	Included
WD-35645-70	Secondary standards	Set of four vials

Colorimeter Reagents

The pH reagent features a dropper bottle making it easy to repetitively provide the correct amount of reagent. The convenient foil packs are ideal for use in the field or in the lab. DPD reagents follow US EPA method 330.5 for wastewater, and Standard Method 4500-Cl G for drinking water.

Catalog number	Description	Included
WD-35645-60	pH reagent	Dropper bottle, for 50 tests
WD-35645-62	Cyanuric acid reagent	100 foil packs
WD-35645-64	Free-chlorine reagent DPD	100 foil packs
WD-35645-66	Total-chlorine reagent DPD	100 foil packs
WD-35645-68	Chlorine dioxide reagent	100 foil packs

Cuvettes

For use with the T-100 turbidity meter on page 64 and all colorimeters on page 65. High-quality borosilicate glass ensures good light transmittance. Indexing mark on each cuvette makes it easy to get repeatable results.

Catalog number	Description	Included
WD-35653-55	Cuvettes	Pack of three