## **Microwave Spectromter HK9**

- Idea behind the spectromter concept; purpose and application
- Physical background
- Realisation (instrument, antennas, priliminary technical data)
- Specter 9 software for calibration
- Indoor tests on different products (tobacco, sand, lsopropanol2, sugar)
- Task list; field test on tobacco, temperature tests, etc.



## Idea behind the spectromter concept

If it is required to measure materials that are baled or packed in boxes, the moisture and the density inside the bale or box are of interest. Problems using phaseshift and attenuation of the  $\mu$ W signal:

- Phaseshift is only defined in a range of 0° to 360°
- Attenuation has a small measuring effect
- To detect density and moisture a combination

of attenuation and phaseshift is needed

## Idea behind the spectromter concept

Advantage using the absorption spectrum:

- no limitation in measuring range (0° to 360° phaseshift)
- As the interaction of material and water is frequency dependent, moisture and density can be measured

Remark: As the attenuation shows less measuring effect than the phase shift, the spectrometer is not usable for small quantities of materials with low moisture.

Use frequency dependent attenuation instead of phase measurement

## Physical background

The interacion of material and microwaves is specified by the dielectric constant of the material, epsilon.

epsilon = epsilon(real)+epsilon(imaginary)

epsilon(real) = reduction in wavelength

epsilon(imaginary) = angle of energy absorption

The loss tangent

tan(delta) = epsilon(imaginary)/epsilon(real)

describes the loss in dielectrics and is the attenuation measured by the HK9 instrument. The variation in tan(delta) relates to the moisture content and the bulk density of the material.

## **Physical background**

The dielectric behaviour of material, especially of water, is frequency dependent . This factor enables us to generate a density-independent moisture signal.

Using a multilinear regression of the absorption spectrum makes it possible to distinguish between the attenuation caused by moisture and that caused by density.

The standarisation, used in the HK9 software, also helps generating a density-independent signal. The first derivation, dT/Lambda, of the spectrum is one of the possibilities the HK9 software offers.

# HK9 Technical data (priliminary)

Housing: Aluminium; IP65; H\*B\*T = 230\*200\*110mm

Weight: about 5kg

Voltage: 115/230 VAC +/-15% 47-65 Hz

Power consumption: 50VA

Operating temperature: -20 – 85 °C

Storage temperature:-30 – 95°C

Display: 2\*24 character LCD, LED-backlight

Relay: AC 250VA, DC 30V 1A

Current output:

2 \* 0/4 – 20mA active output, isolated, max. load 500 0hm, moisture and

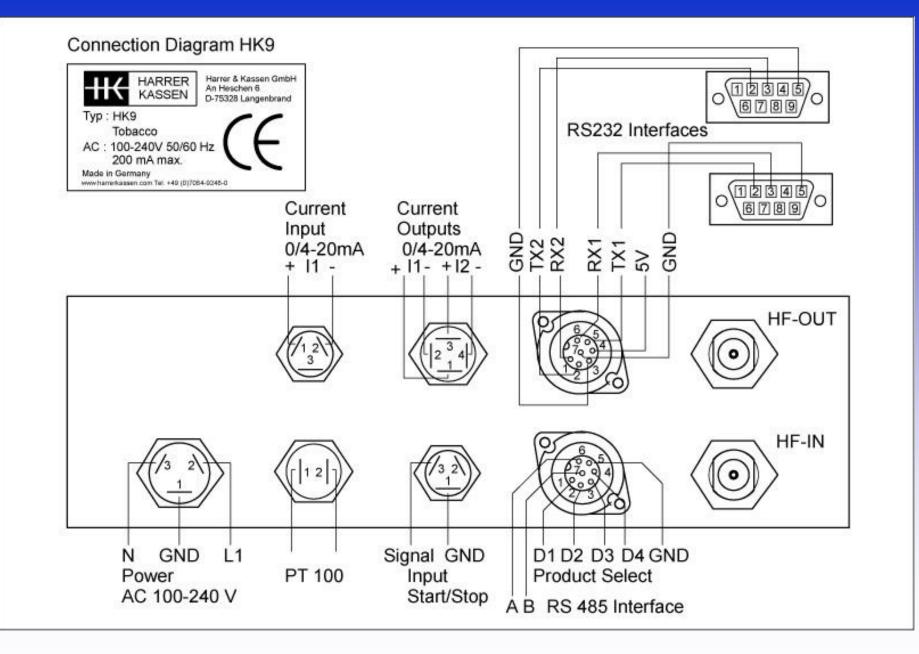
density

## HK9 Technical data (priliminary)

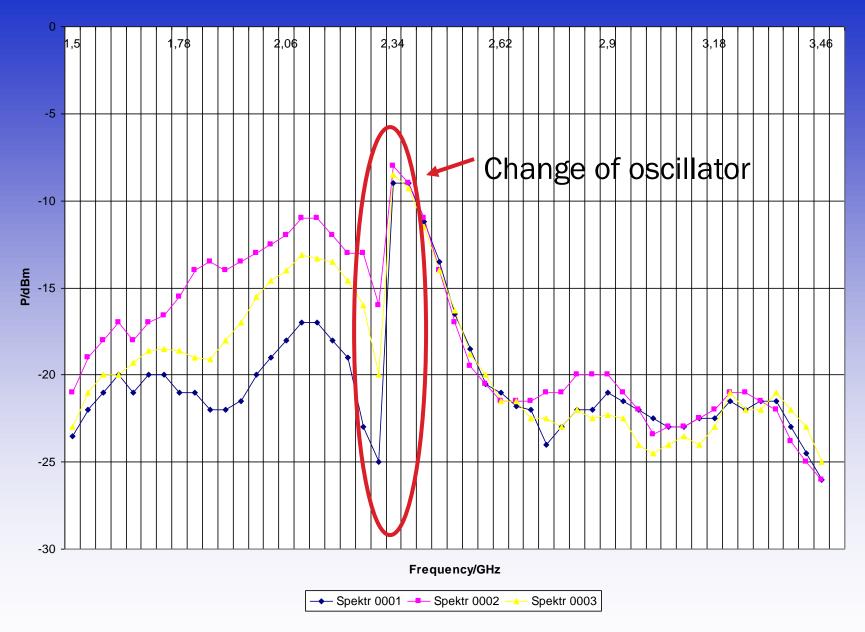
Current input: 0/4 – 20mA, not isolated, load 125 Ohm

- COM ports: RS232; data output
  - RS232; bidirectional; calibration via SPECTER9
  - RS485; data output
  - 2400 Baud to 115 kBaud;
  - 8 data bit, 1 stop bit, no parity
- Digital inputs: Start/Stop; Product select
- Microwave frequency: 1,5 GHz to 3,5 GHz; 50 steps
- Microwave power: max: -10 dBm
- Sensitivity: -80 dBm; 10 measurements/second

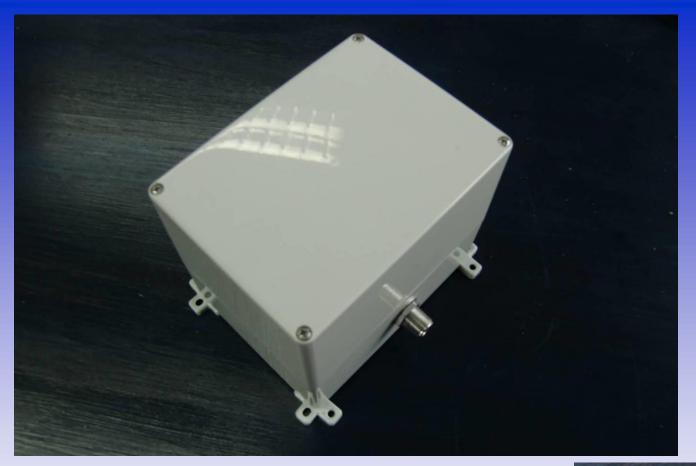




**Output power** 



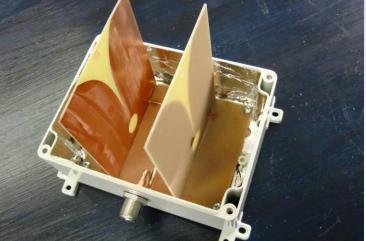
Output power

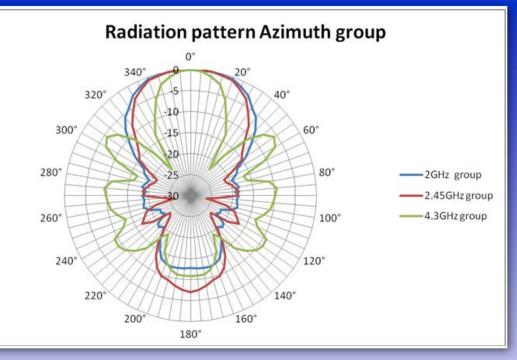


### Vivaldi group antenna

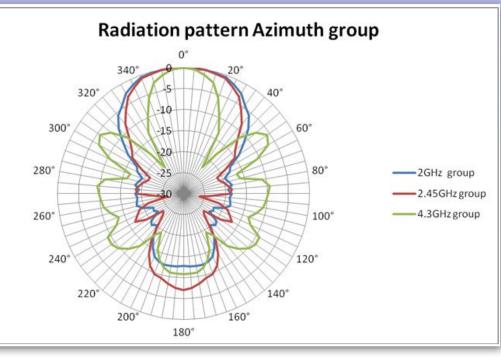
Dimension: 160\*120\*140 mm; L\*B\*H

Material: ABS; IP 65





Vivaldi antenna Gain: 10 dB HPBW: 60° to 70°



- Written by Mr. Gerald Keck
- Based on Spekter 8 Software for NIR calibration
- Uses multilinear Regression for calibrating HK9
- Calculates the coefficients for moisture and density
- PC based software that communicates via RS232 with the HK9 instrument
- Calculates up to 6 coefficients for miosture and up to 7 coefficients for density measurement.

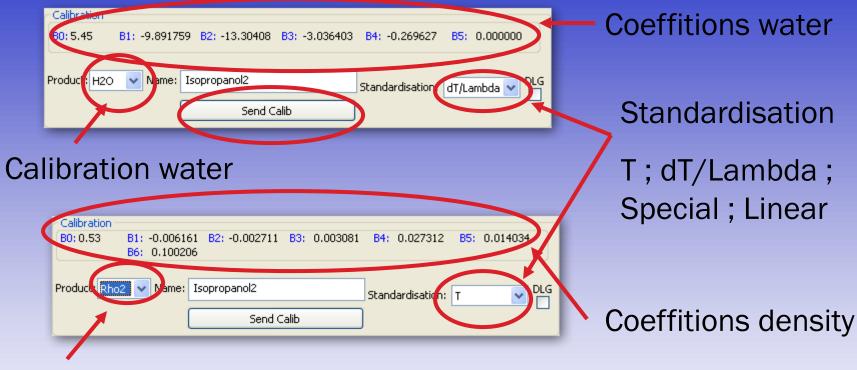
 $H_{20} = a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_4$ 

with W (1->n) standardised denstiy independ values

Rho = a0 + a1\*T1 + a2\*T2 + a3\*T3 + a4\*T4+a5\*T5 + a6\*H20with T (1->n) standardised spectrum

Remark: Number of needed coefficients reduces, if less than 5 wavelength are used.

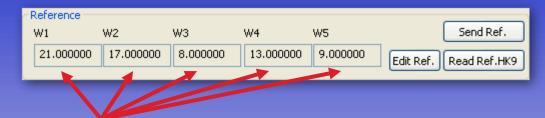
🔫 isotagung - Specter9	Version 1.0.0.											
File Communication Undo/Re	edo Calibration Dis	splay Export Data Info										
Status				Lab versus HK9								
COM-Port: OK.   Calculati	ion: OK.	-		1.02 0.96								
Calibration		0.90										
		0.84										
B0: 5.45 B1: -9.891759	9 <mark>B2:</mark> -13.30408 B3	0.78										
Product: H2O Vame: Isopropanol2 Standardisation: dT/Lambda V DLG 0.60												
		Stanuaruisati		0.54								
	Send Calib			0.42								
Calibration quality				Lab • HK9 • 'unknown' HK9								
STD: Calibration: 0.070	STD: Uoko	own samples: -NA-	R <sup>2</sup> :0.800	Change view								
	2121 21111			Calibration quality:								
Reference				Deviation								
W1 W2	W3 W4	W5	Send Ref.	0.16								
21.000000 17.000000	8.000000 13.0	000000 9.000000 F	dit Ref. Read Ref. HK9	0.13								
				0.07								
Sample View				0.04								
x Comment	W1 W2 V	W3 W4 W5 H2C	) P.H2O E.H2O 🔼									
09.04.13 13:54	54.22 48.03 32.	38 35.13 36.31 1.00	0.87 -0.13	-0.05								
Ø9.04.13 13:59	54.22 48.03 32.	28 35.59 35.77 1.00	0.87 -0.13	-0.08								
09.04.13 14:12	54.47 48.04 32.	54 35.42 36.29 0.95	5 0.91 -0.04	-0.14								
Ø9.04.13 14:15	54.39 48.00 32.	51 35.43 36.27 0.95	5 0.93 -0.02	Calibrated  Uncalibrated								
09.04.13 14:22	54.79 48.25 32.	68 35.38 36.39 0.90	0.84 -0.06	XY View								
Ø9.04.13 14:24	54.74 48.21 32.	65 35.33 36.28 0.90	0.84 -0.06	1.02								
✓ 09.04.13 14:27	55.03 48.47 32.	74 35.60 36.47 0.85										
✓ 09.04.13 14:29	54.93 48.36 32.	64 35.60 36.46 0.85		\$0.84 ·····								
✓ 09.04.13 13:54	56.64 50.18 34.			20.78								
09.04.13 14:12	57.09 50.55 34.			20.66								
✓ 09.04.13 14:15	57.07 50.57 34.			T0.60								
✓ 09.04.13 14:22	57.38 50.80 34.			0.48								
✓ 09.04.13 14:24	57.37 50.74 34.			0.42 9.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 9.55 0.42 0.55 0.45 0.55 0.45 0.55 0.45 0.55								
09.04.13 14:27		14 37.35 37.92 0.85		0.50 0.55 0.65 0.65 0.80 0.80 0.90 0.90 0.90								
09.04.13 14:29	57.71 51.09 35.	09 37.22 37.83 0.85	5 0.94 0.09 🖄	Lab values								
Delete Sample	Edit Sample	New Sample manual	New Sample HK9	Count: 1 V Exit								



Calibration density



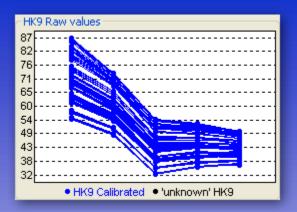
Statistical parameters; Quality of calibration



Reference Attenuation for single wavelenth

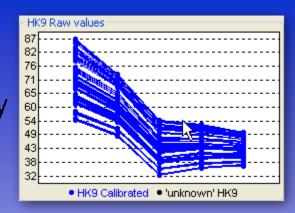
Spectra with Lab-values; predicted values and deviation

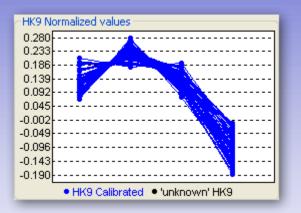
x	Comment	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	H20	P.H2O	E.H2O
	09.04.13 13:54	54.22	48.03	32.38	35.13	36.31	1.00	0.87	-0.13
✓	09.04.13 13:59	54.22	48.03	32.28	35.59	35.77	1.00	0.87	-0.13
✓	09.04.13 14:12	54.47	48.04	32.54	35.42	36.29	0.95	0.91	-0.04
✓	09.04.13 14:15	54.39	48.00	32.51	35.43	36.27	0.95	0.93	-0.02
✓	09.04.13 14:22	54.79	48.25	32.68	35.38	36.39	0.90	0.84	-0.06
✓	09.04.13 14:24	54.74	48.21	32.65	35,33	36.28	0.90	0.84	-0.06
<b>~</b>	09.04.13 14:27	55.03	48.47	32.74	35.60	36.47	0.85	0.79	-0.06
<b>~</b>	09.04.13 14:29	54.93	48.36	32.64	35.60	36.46	0.85	0.78	-0.07
<b>~</b>	09.04.13 13:54	56.64	50.18	34.41	36.45	37.35	1.00	0.97	-0.03
<b>~</b>	09.04.13 14:12	57.09	50.55	34.58	37.17	37.46	0.95	0.95	0.00
✓	09.04.13 14:15	57.07	50.57	34.57	37.39	37.46	0.95	0.98	0.03
✓	09.04.13 14:22	57.38	50.80	34.84	36.99	37.49	0.90	0.93	0.03
✓	09.04.13 14:24	57.37	50.74	34.76	37.02	37.38	0.90	0.90	0.00
✓	09.04.13 14:27	57.75	51.11	35.14	37.35	37.92	0.85	0.96	0.11
~	09.04.13 14:29	57.71	51.09	35.09	37.22	37.83	0.85	0.94	0.09



**Graphs** Moisture Density

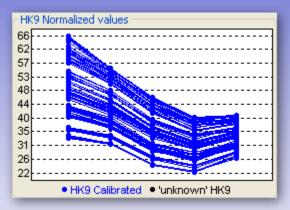
Raw values

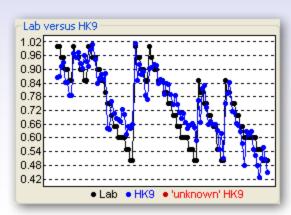




#### Standardisation

dT/Lambda

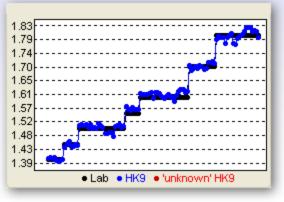




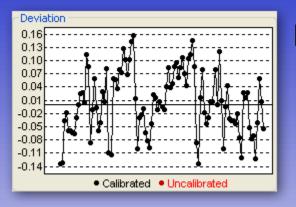
#### Comparison Lab vs. HK9

Moisture

Density

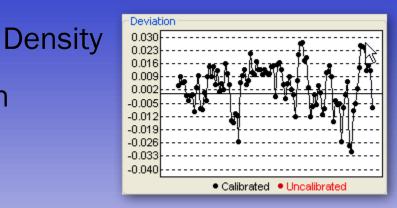


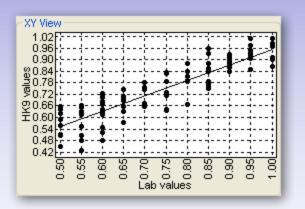
## Graphs



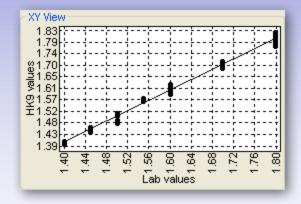
#### Moisture

Deviation





Regression



## Indoor tests on different products

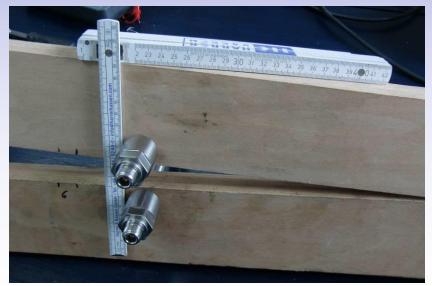
- Isopropanol2
- Sugar
- Sand
- Tobacco

HK9 Isopropanol2 Measurement

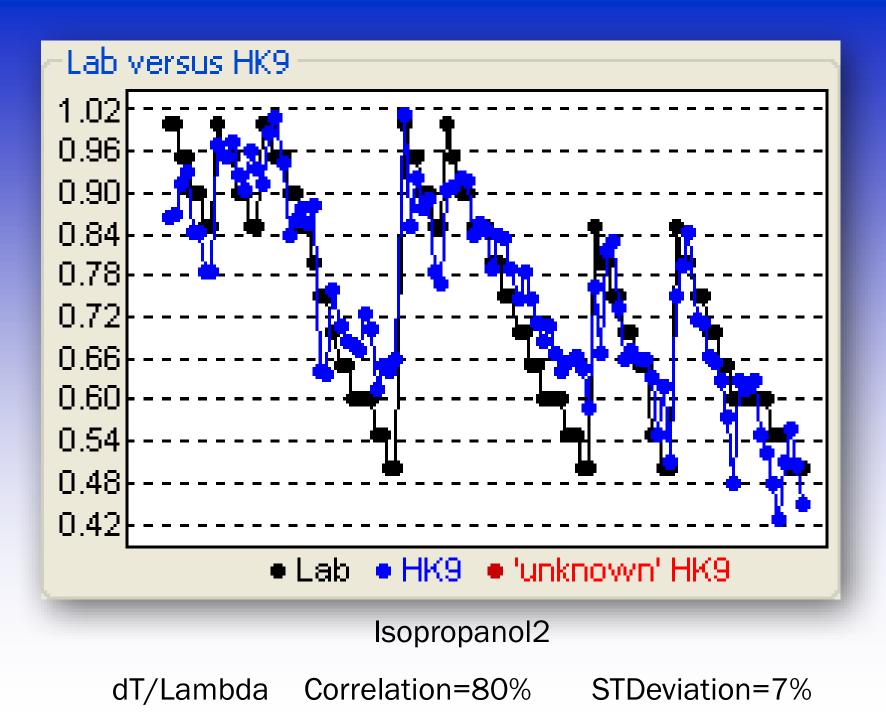
2 PIN-antennas tunable in distance, 4cm to 8cm

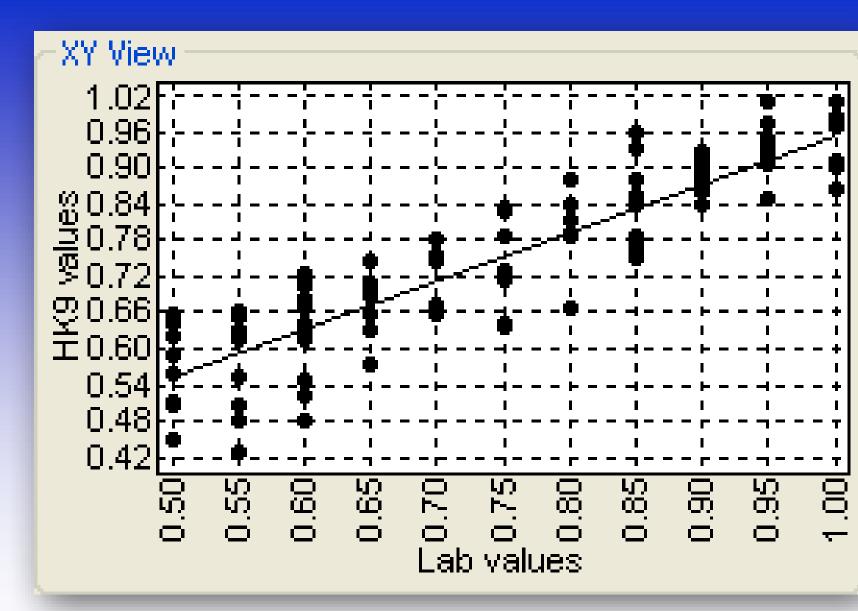
Bucket with water diluted with Isopropanol2, 100% to 50%

Changing the distance of the antennas corresponds to density variation







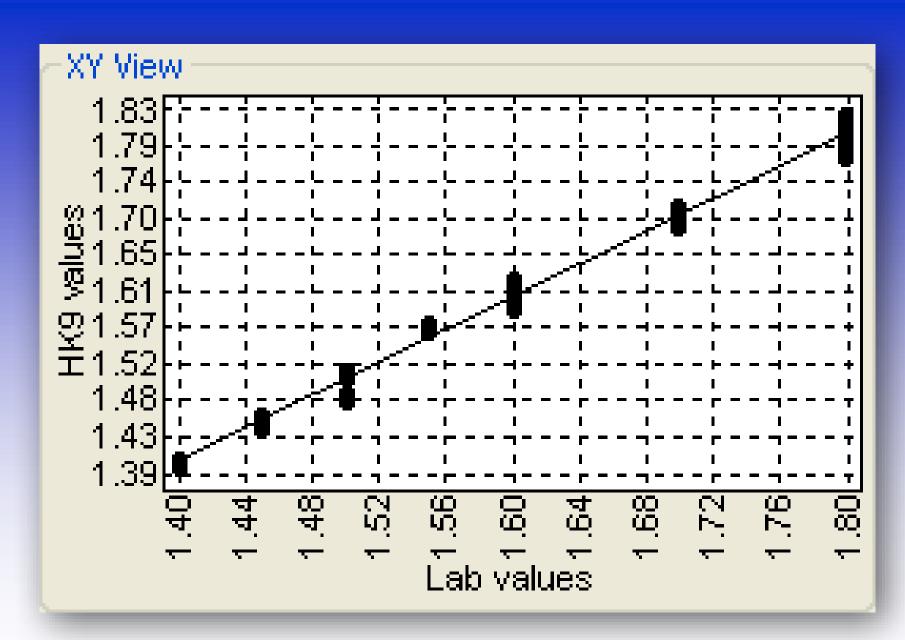


Isopropanol2

density variation 100%

#### Lab versus HK9 1.83 1.79 1.741.70 1.65 1.61 1.57 1.52 1.48 1.43 1.39 HK9 • 'unknown' HK9 Lab. Isopropanol2

T Correlation=99,1% STDeviation=0,012=0,48mm



Isopropanol2

moisture variation 50%

## **HK9 Sugar Measurement**

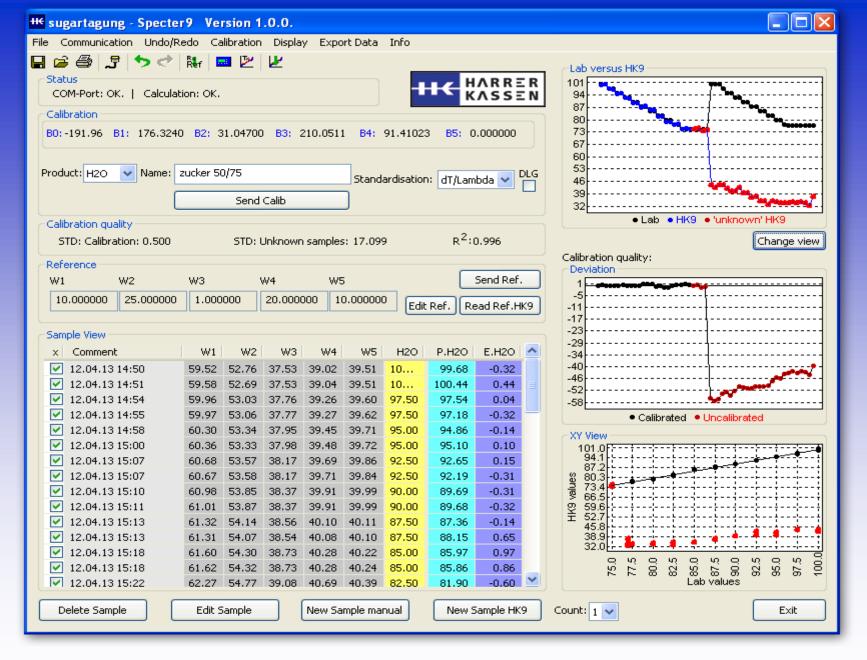
Sugar in a basket measured with two different sensors, spacing of the antennas 50mm and 75mm (picture)

Density independent standardisation provides calibration

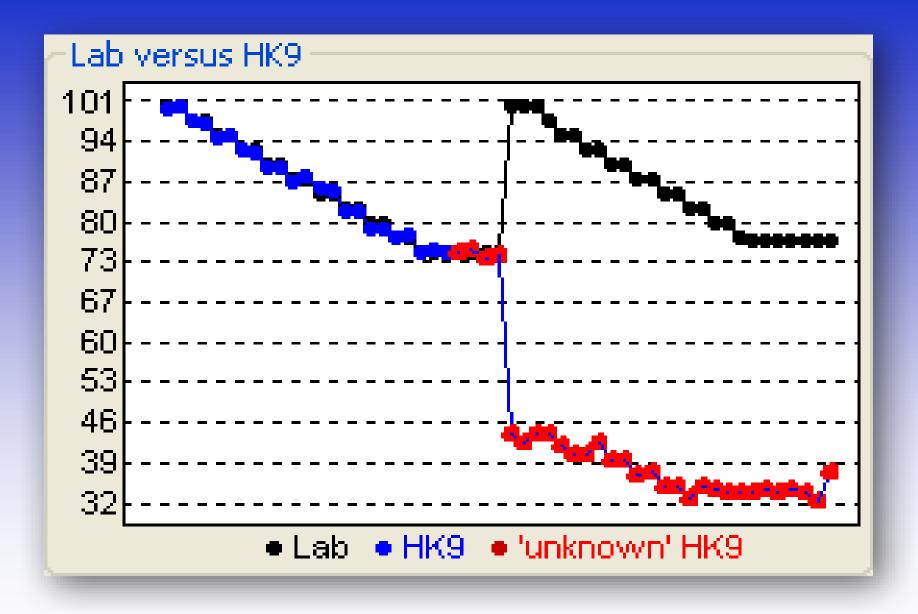


that fits for both sensors.

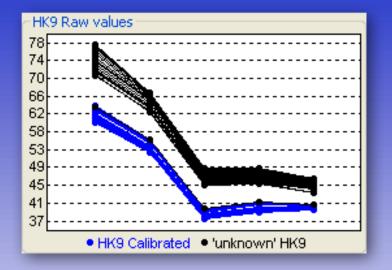
- Calibration 50mm spacing
- 2. Calibration all values 50mm and 75mm spacing
- 3. Calibration extreme values high/low

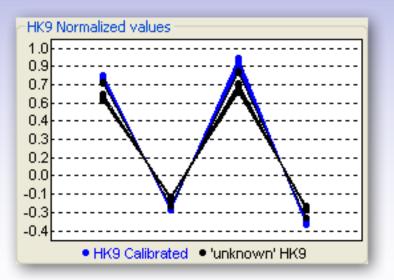


Calibration for 50mm sensor; 0 to 27 Bx



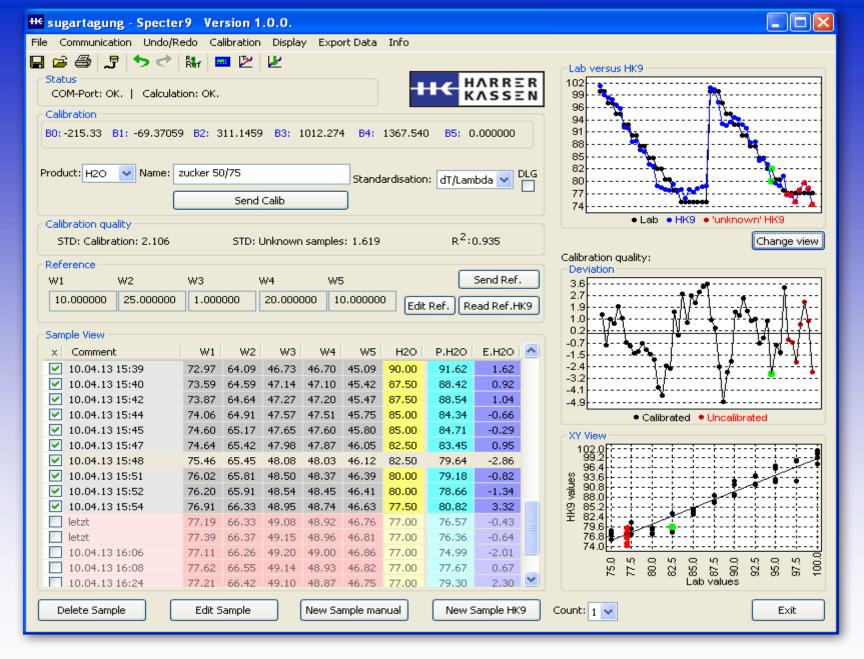
Calibration for 50mm sensor



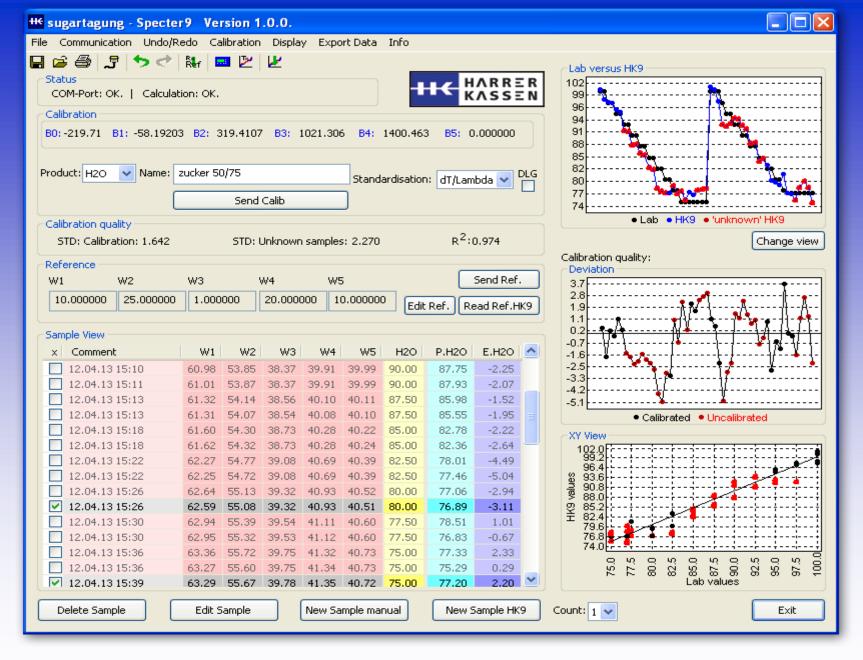


Two groups are visible representing different sensor spacings.

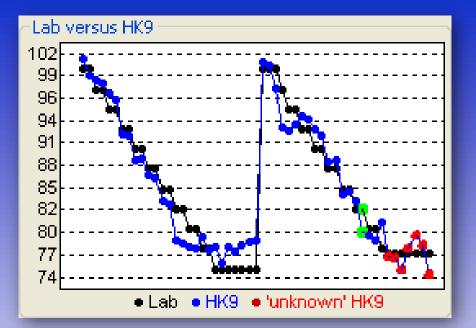
The normalized values show two groups, too. The amplitude of the two groups changes from + to -. As the graps cross each other it is possible to combine them into one calibration.

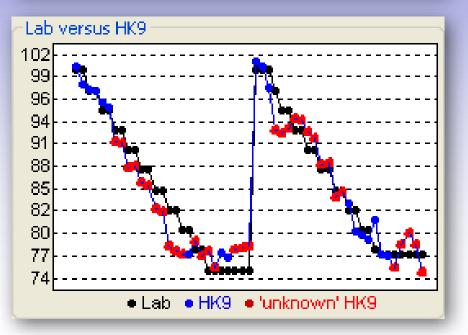


Calibration 50mm and 75mm; all samples



Calibration 50mm and 75mm; extreme values





# Calibration 50mm and 75mm

all values

#### • extreme values

Remark: The multilinear regression does not predict values that are outside the range used for calibration!

## **HK9** measurement on sand





HK9 Sand

## **HK9** measurement on sand

Two Vivaldi antennas, distance 50cm

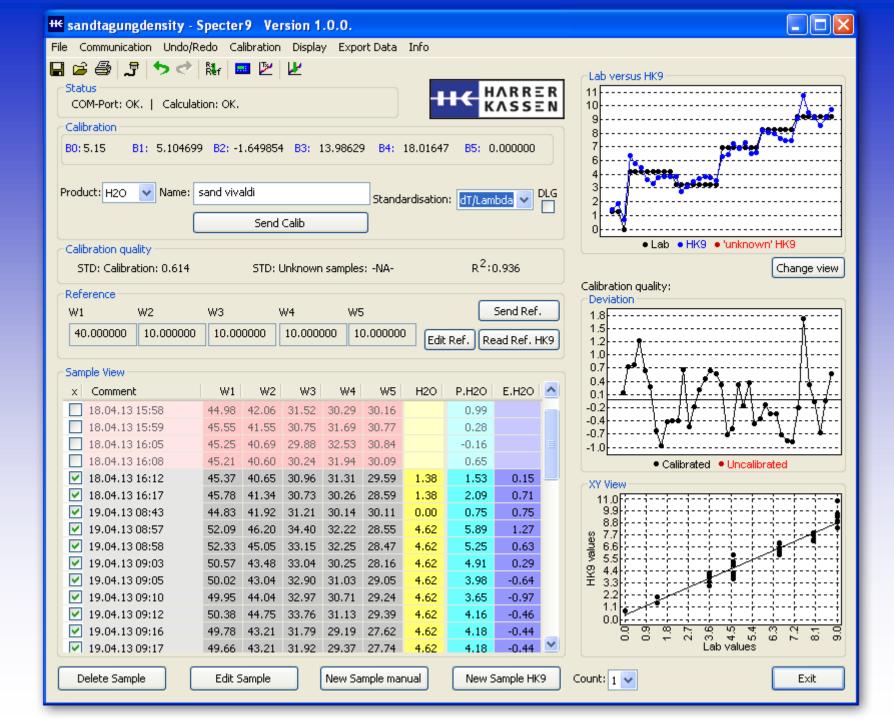
```
Plastic pan 56 * 36 * 14 cm around 14 l
```

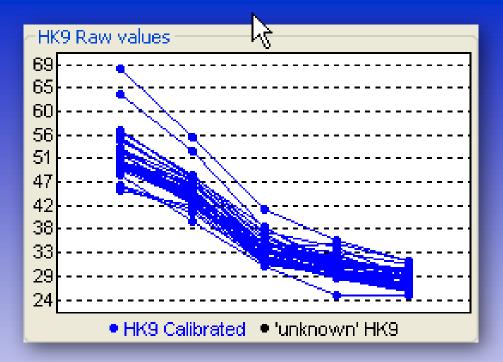
H2O range 0 to 9%

Density; the weight of the plastic pan filled up with the sand was taken as density value. The variation in weight was 28 kg to 37,7 kg sand. Only one sample had 20 kg.

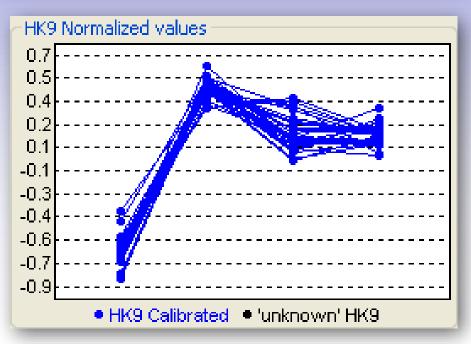
The sand was splitted into three parts, water was added and the moisture analyzed. After that two parts were filled into the pan and measured. The third part was added in three portions to give the density variation.

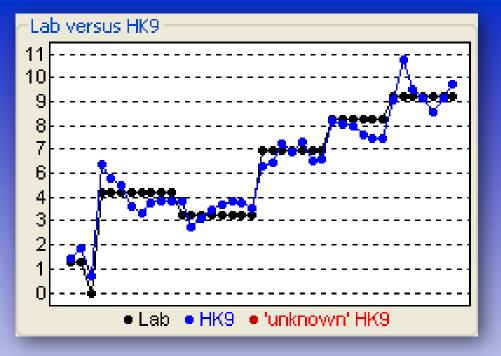
The layer thickness of the sand changed from 10cm to 14 cm.



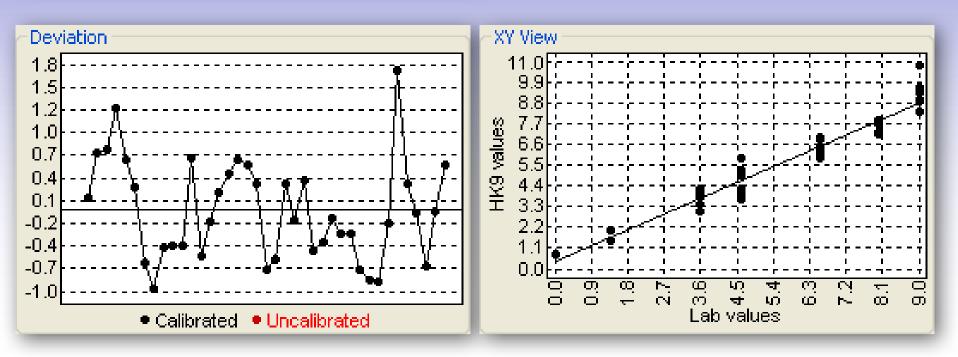


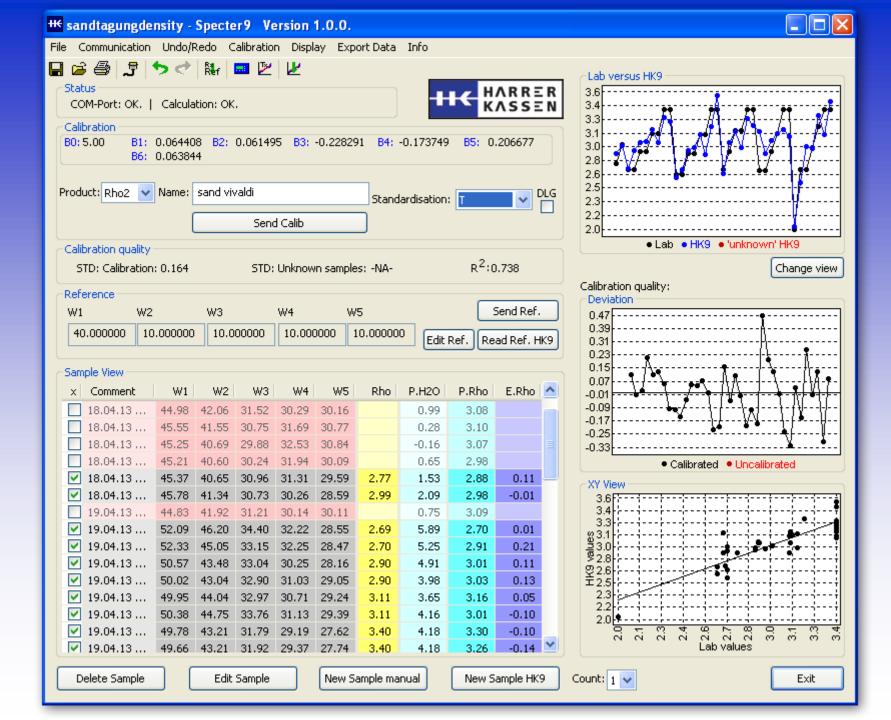
Standardisation: dT/Lambda Calibration: H<sub>2</sub>O

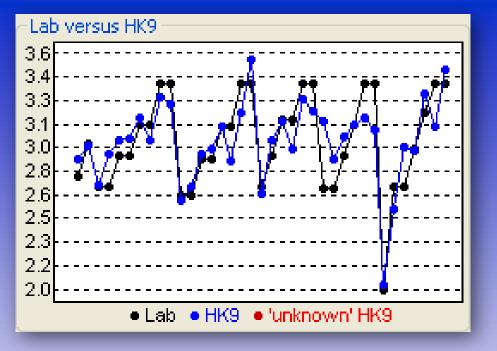




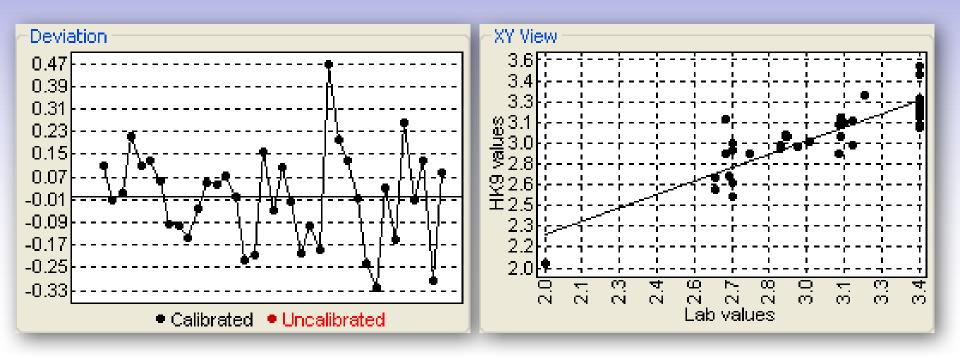
# Calibration: H2O Correlation: 93,6% STDeviation: 0,61%







Standardisation: T Calibration: Rho2 Correlation: 73,8% STDeviation: 0,16 kg



### **HK9** measurement on sand

Moisture measurements on sand with variation in density and layer thickness are possible.

The amount of sand between the antennas should be at least 15cm to achieve good resulution and accuracy.

It is possible to measure the amount of material positioned between the antennas. This relates to density and load.

### **HK9** measurements on tobacco





HK9 tobacco

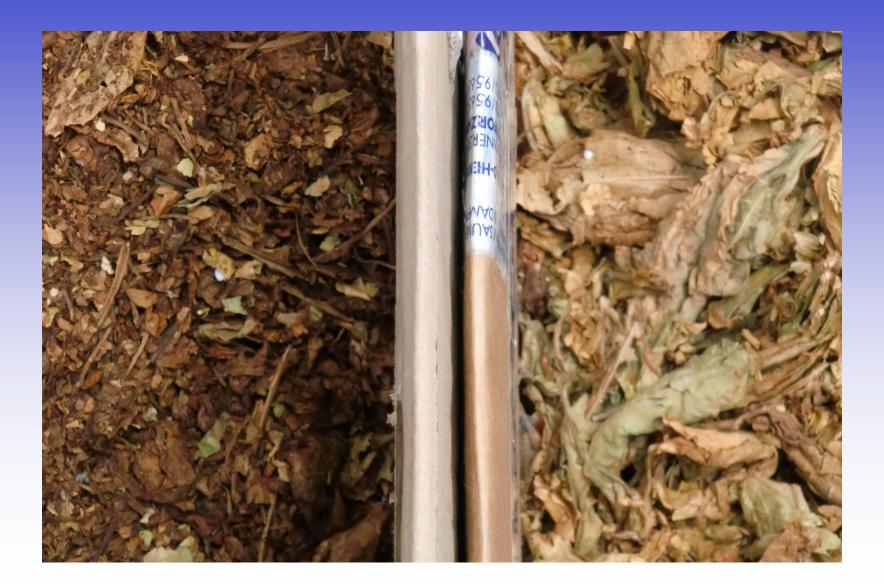
### HK9 measurements on tobacco

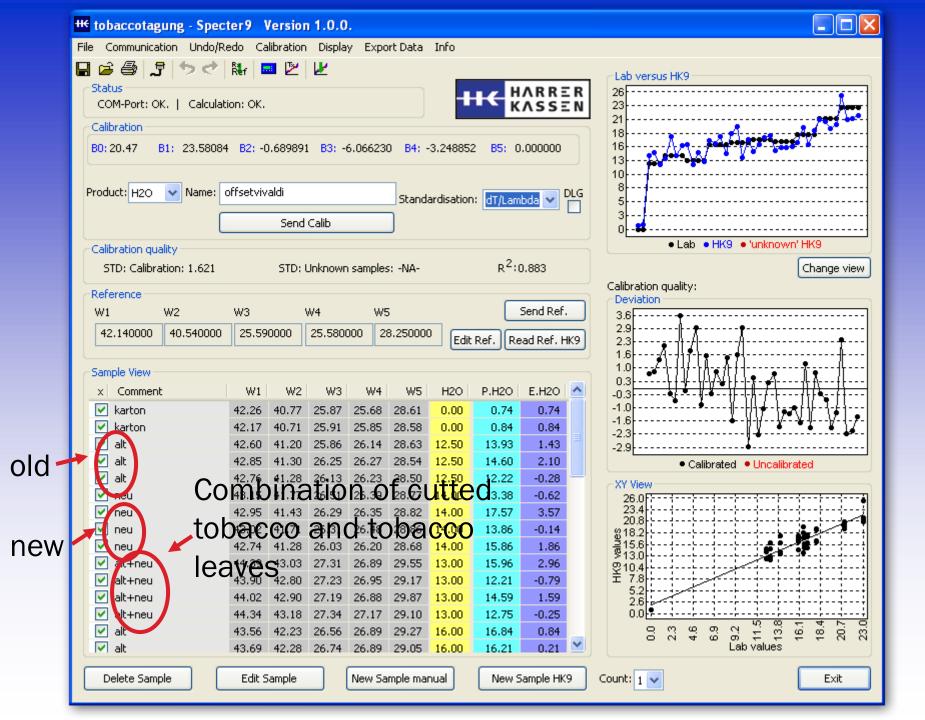
- Two Vivaldi antennas, distance 50cm
- Cardboard box: size 40 \* 60 \* 30 cm around 72 I (1000g)
- H20 range 10 to 25%
- Two types of tobacco: tobacco leaves and cutted brown tobacco
- Cutted tobacco: weight 2700g; moisture 10%
- Tobacco leaves: weight 2500g; moisture 16,5%
- Density lab value is weight of tobacco with cardboard box

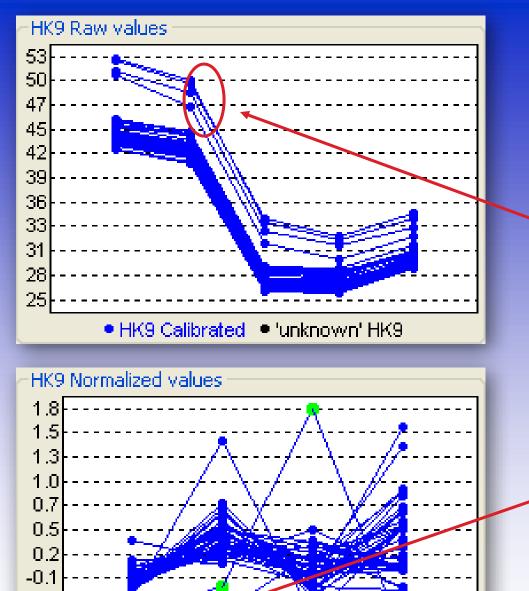
In order to generate different moisture and density values, the tobacco leaves were put into plastic bags that were added to the cutted tobacco. (side by side or laying upon each other) Time for absorbing water: at least 2 hours

#### tobacco leaves (new)

#### cutted tobacco (old)





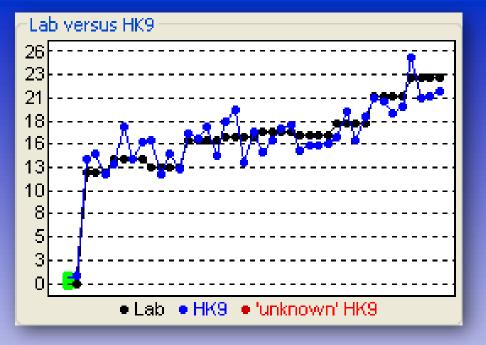


• HK9 Calibrated • 'unknown' HK9

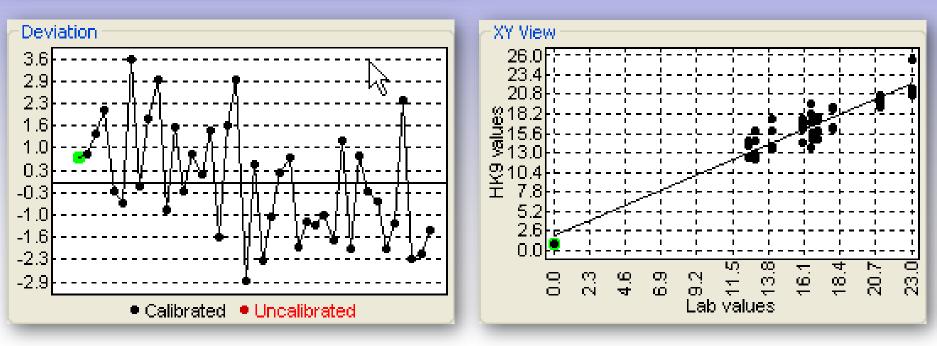
-0.4 -0.6 -0.9 Standardisation: dT/Lambda Calibration: H2O

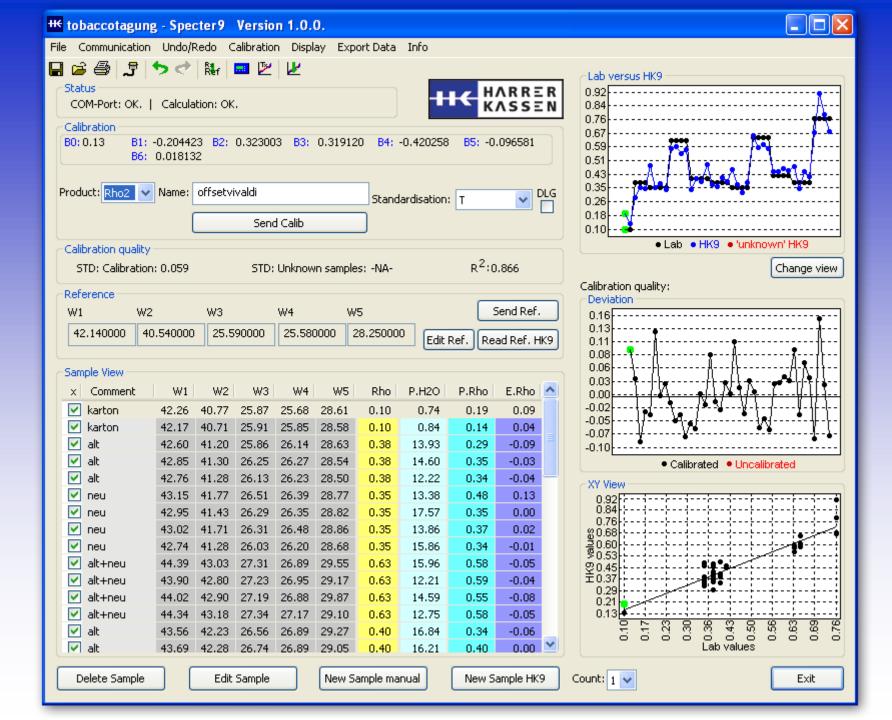
23% H2O; old+new;
high density

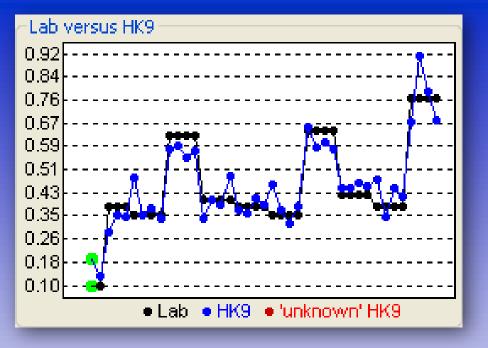
Cardboard box



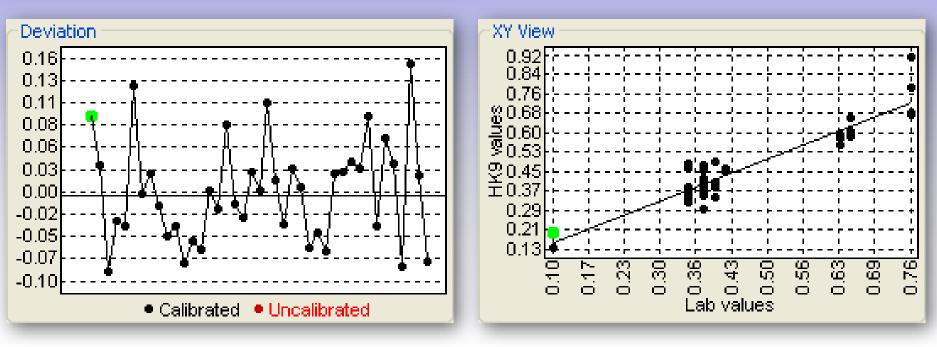
Calibration: H<sub>2</sub>O Correlation: 88,3% STDeviation: 1,6%







Calibration: Rho2 Standardisation: T Correlation: 86,6% STDeviation: 0,059 = 590g



### HK9 measurements on tobacco

Measurement of H2O and density is possible.

5 kg tobacco is too little amount to get better results in moisture and density.

The amount of water between the antennas correlates to a layer thickness of less than 5mm.

Sample taking and manufacturing is difficult. Moisture variations inside the product of more than 2% had been observed.

Positioning the cardboard box between the antennas sometimes gives stupid measuring results, especially when the wall of the box can affect the measurement.

### Task list

Field test on tobacco bales in Greece. Bale size should be at least 40 to 50 kg.

Questions: How does the instrument work, when the bale moves?

Which is the most usefull standardisation?

Positioning of the antennas?

Test with waveguides to find out the temperature dependence of the measurement.

Question: Is it necessary and possible to compensate the product temperature?

Test on other products, for instance sand on convayor belt.

## Thank you



## for your attention!

Harrer & Kassen GmbH Geschäftsführer Dr. Dipl. Ing. Horst Harrer Am Heschen 4-6 75328 Langenbrand Germany Tel.: +49 (0)7084/9248-0 Fax: +49 (0)7084/924829

