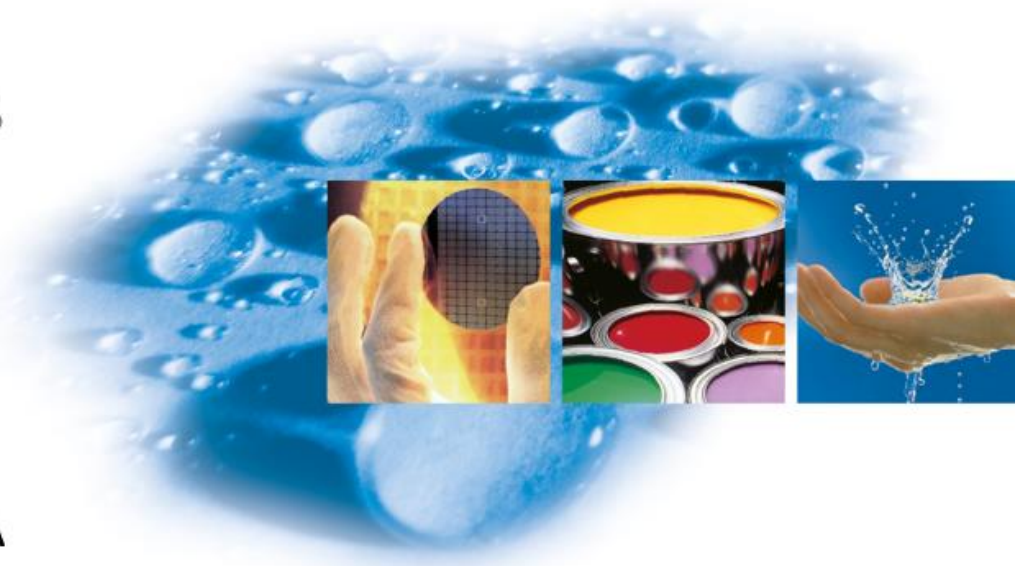




**Coatings Trends  
& Technologies  
SUMMIT**

## Modern techniques in studies of interfacial behavior



Hieu Ngo, DataPhysics Instruments USA

## Emulsion and Dispersion Stability Device

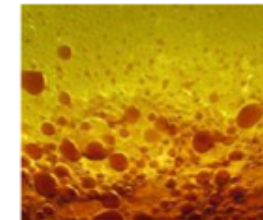
- Instrument for analysing stability of emulsion and dispersion
- Temperature could be controlled to accelerate aging and simulate real-world conditions
- Uses a light-scattering technique to detect movement of particles over time, position, and temperature.



# Classification of multi-component systems

- homogeneous mixtures  
mixed at the molecular level (“molecularly disperse”) → one-phase
  - gas mixtures, alloys (metal + metal), solutions (solid, liquid or gas in liquid)
- heterogeneous mixtures (= dispersions)  
different compounds in distinct areas (“coarsely disperse”) → multi-phase
  - solid in solid: blend (e.g. granite), muck (e.g. flint)
  - gas in solid: rigid foam (e.g. sponge)
  - solid in liquid: suspension (e.g. slurry)
  - liquid in liquid: emulsion (e.g. milk)
  - gas in liquid: foam (e.g. beer foam)
  - solid in gas: smoke, dust (e.g. cigarette smoke)
  - liquid in gas: steam, vapour, fog

} aerosols



- *the Device is designed to investigate liquid heterogeneous mixtures (i.e. suspensions, emulsions, foams) regarding their stability – or rather their de-mixing/destabilization is monitored...*



## Scan Tower ST

→ Up to 6 scan towers ST can be connected simultaneously to the Main unit

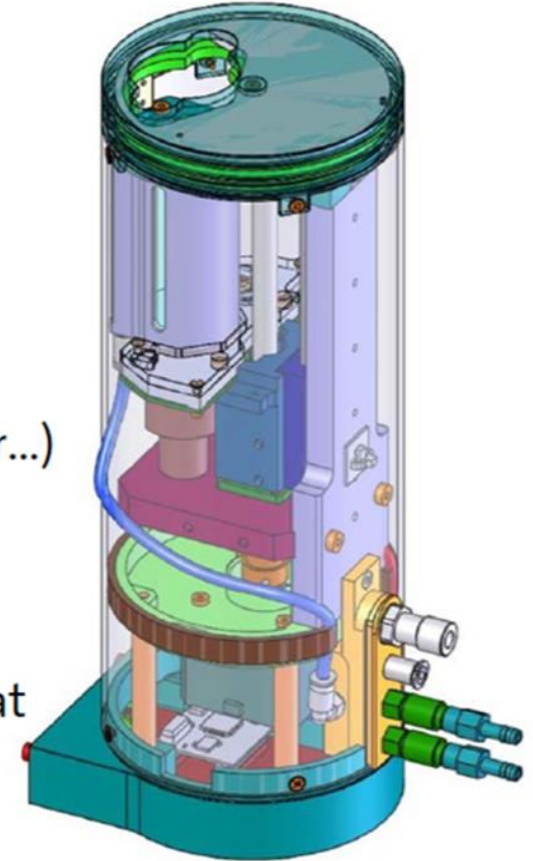


### Comprises:

- Thermostatable measuring chamber into which the sample container is inserted from the top
- Measuring chamber lid with electric motor (controlled via touch display or software)
- Temperature sensor in the sample chamber
- Scanning plate and associated electronics (stepper motor...)
- Protective liquid collection tray above electronics

### Ports: (from bottom to top)

- Liquid connections for cooling fluid/to thermo- or cryostat
- Gas connection for purging gas against condensation
- Drain for liquid in the collection tray

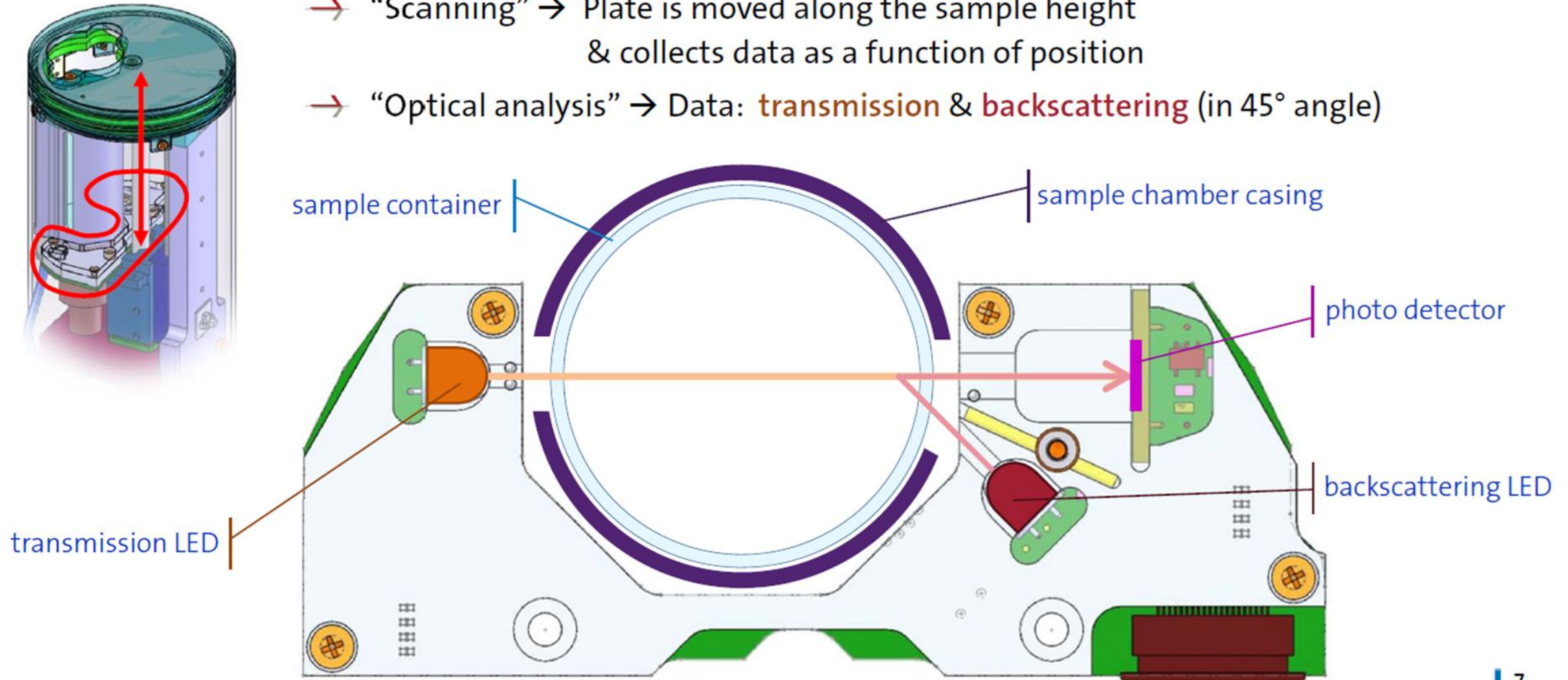


## Scanning plate: Measuring principle

→ Centerpiece of the scan tower!

→ “Scanning” → Plate is moved along the sample height & collects data as a function of position

→ “Optical analysis” → Data: **transmission** & **backscattering** (in 45° angle)



# Destabilisation mechanisms of fluid mixtures

- particle size increase (often irreversible)
  - coalescence (merging of particles)  
e.g. breakup of an emulsion or foam
  - agglomeration, aggregation  
e.g. precipitation of salt from brine solution

global

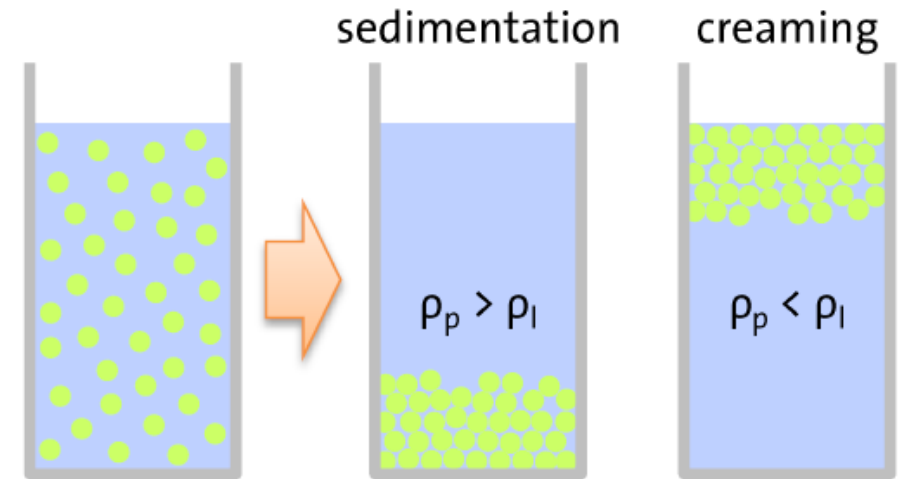
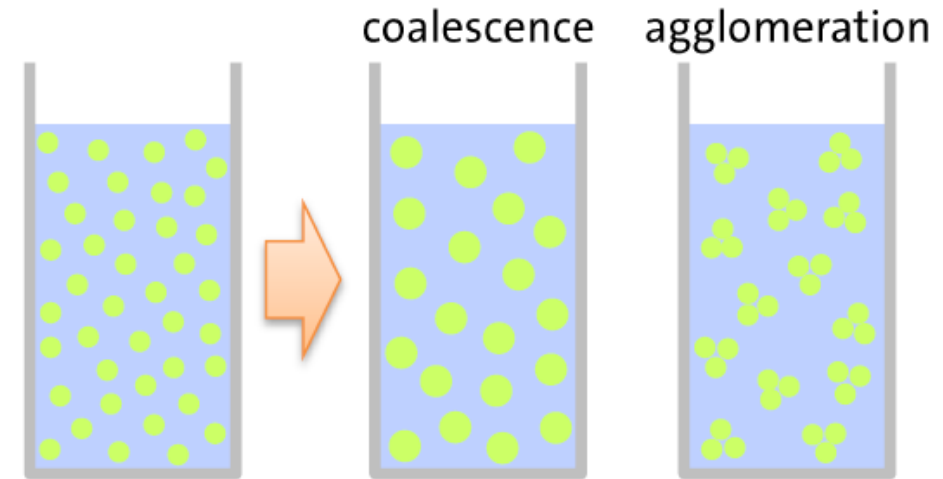
driving force: *reduction the of interfacial area between different phases (which reduces the energy of the system due to the interfacial tension)*

- particle migration (usually reversible)
  - sedimentation  
e.g. solid particles in slurry
  - creaming  
e.g. fat droplets in milk

local:  
concentration changes

driving force: *gravity acting on phases with different density*

- both mechanisms are recognized by optical analysis!

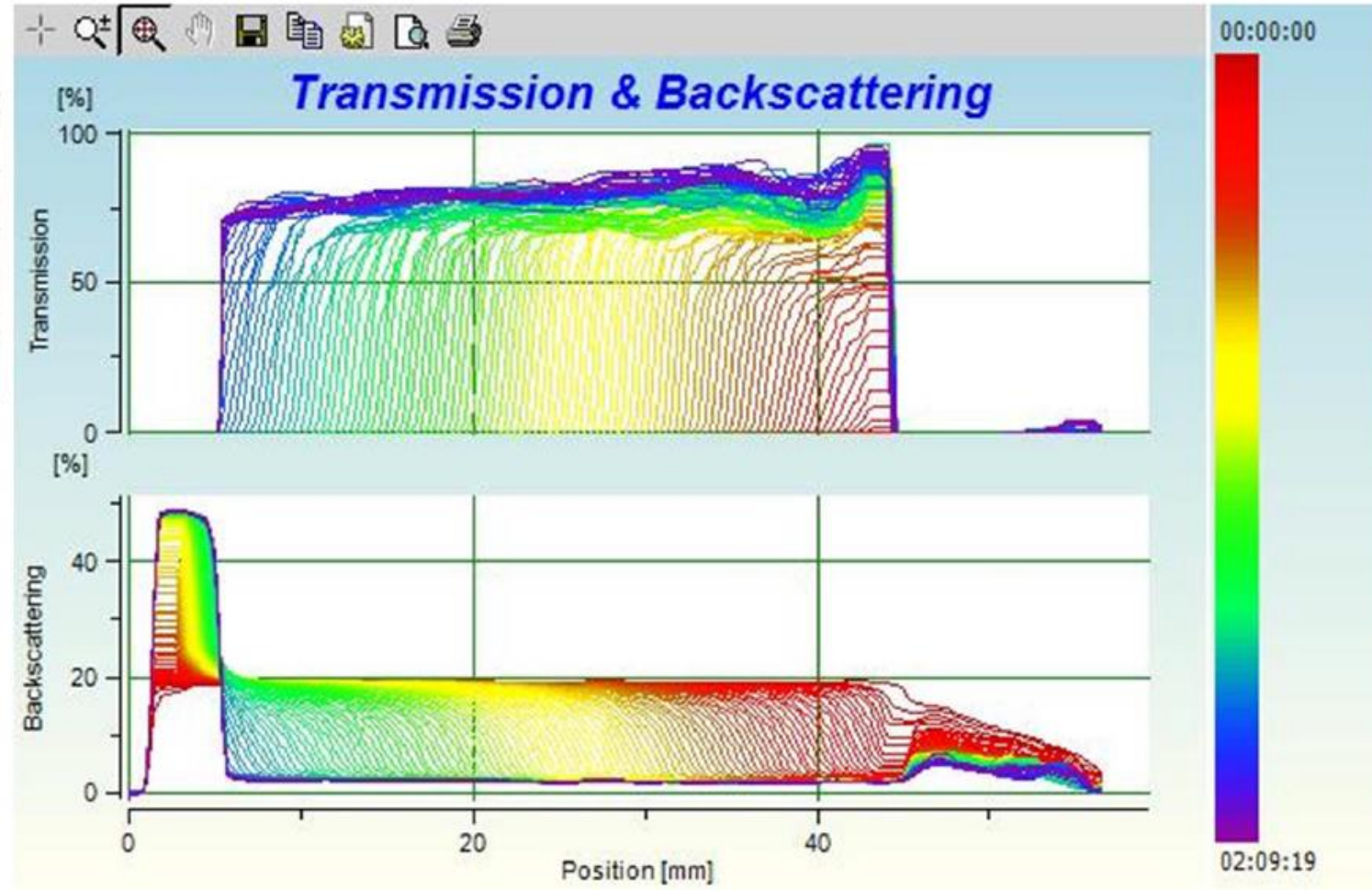
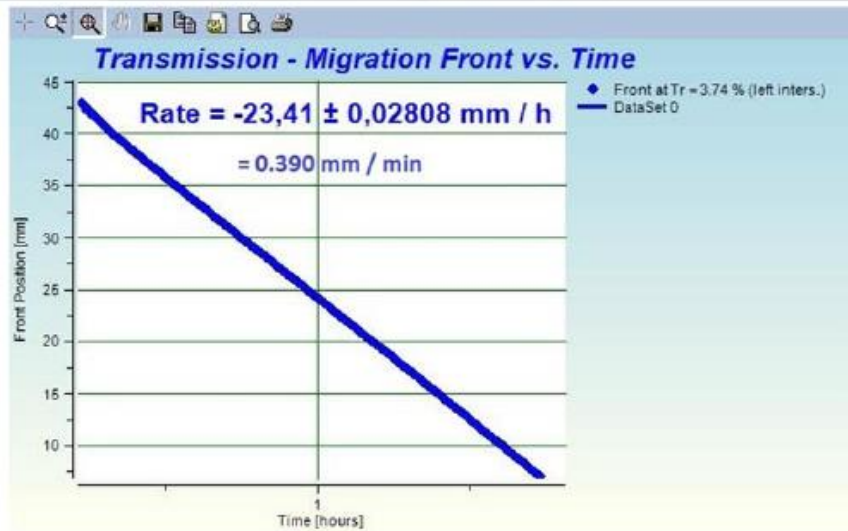




# Sedimentation of polystyrene

→  $d = 15.3 \mu\text{m}$

$T = 30 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$

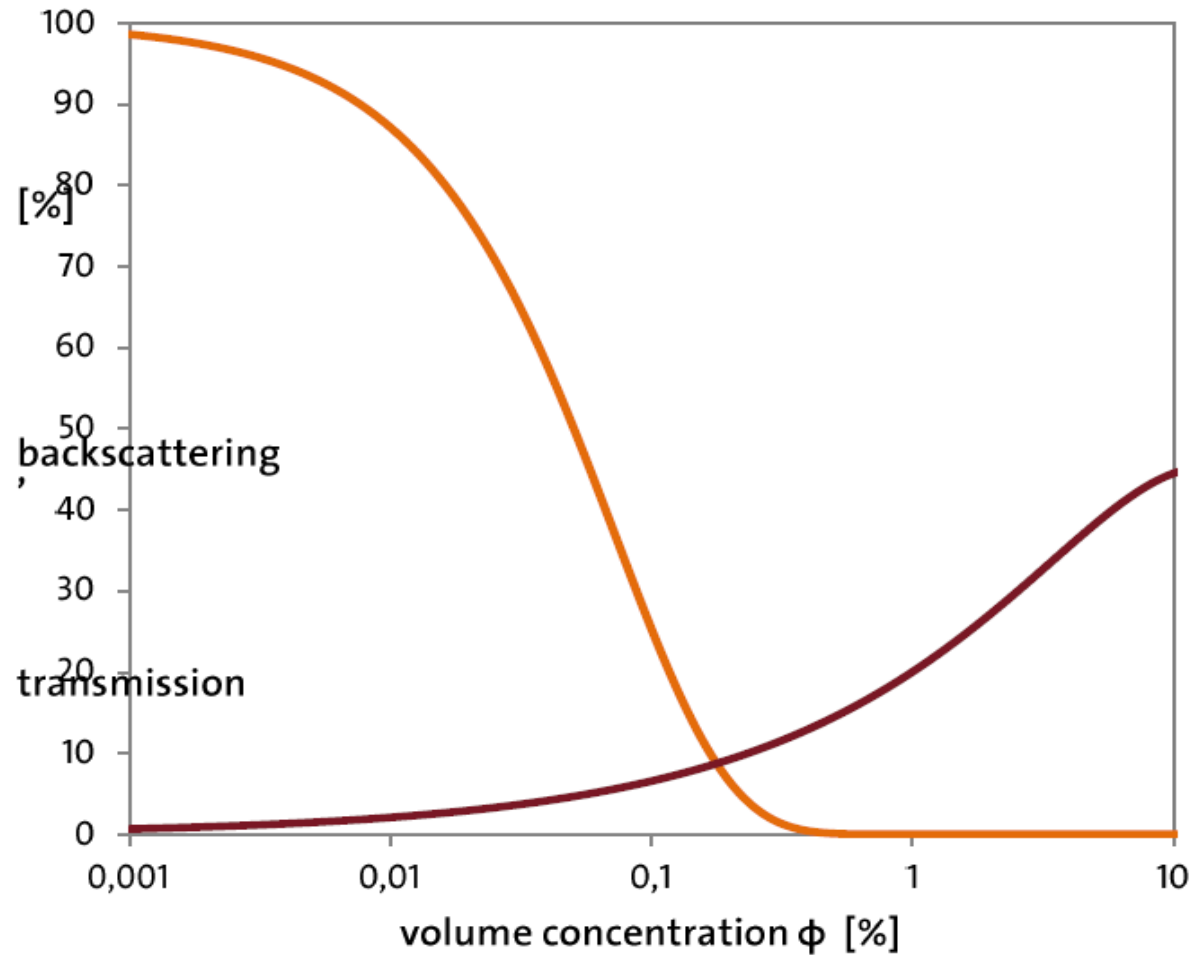




# Optical analysis: Concentration dependence

silica particles ( $\varnothing$  0.3  $\mu\text{m}$ ) in water

— transmission — backscattering

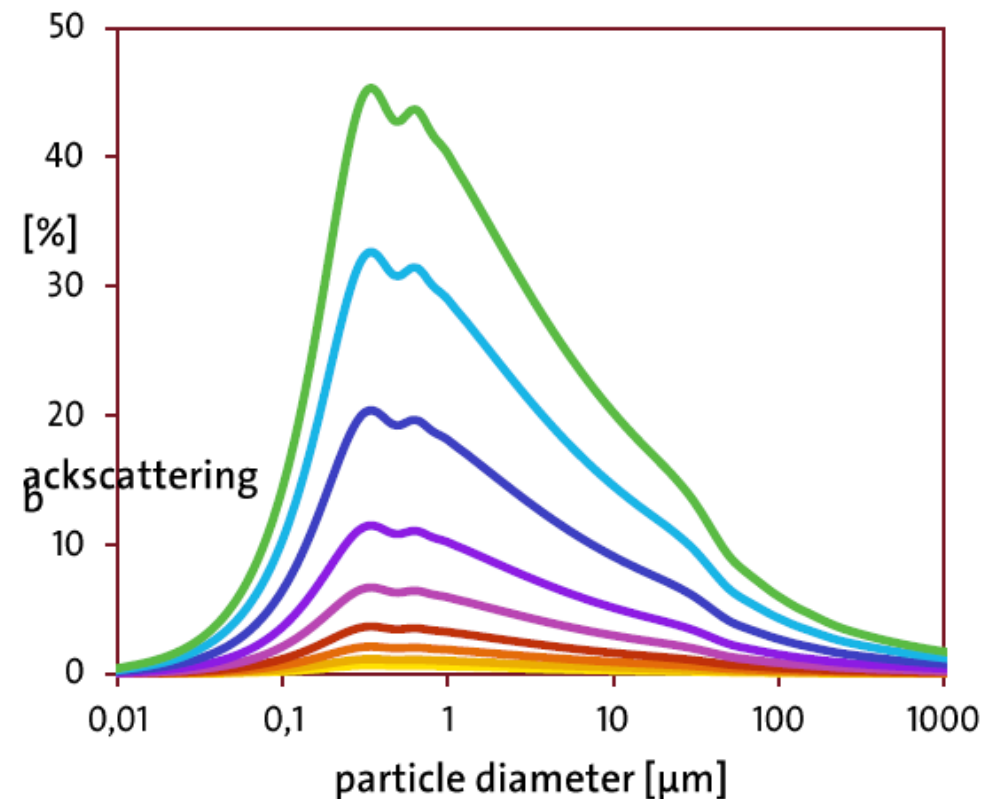
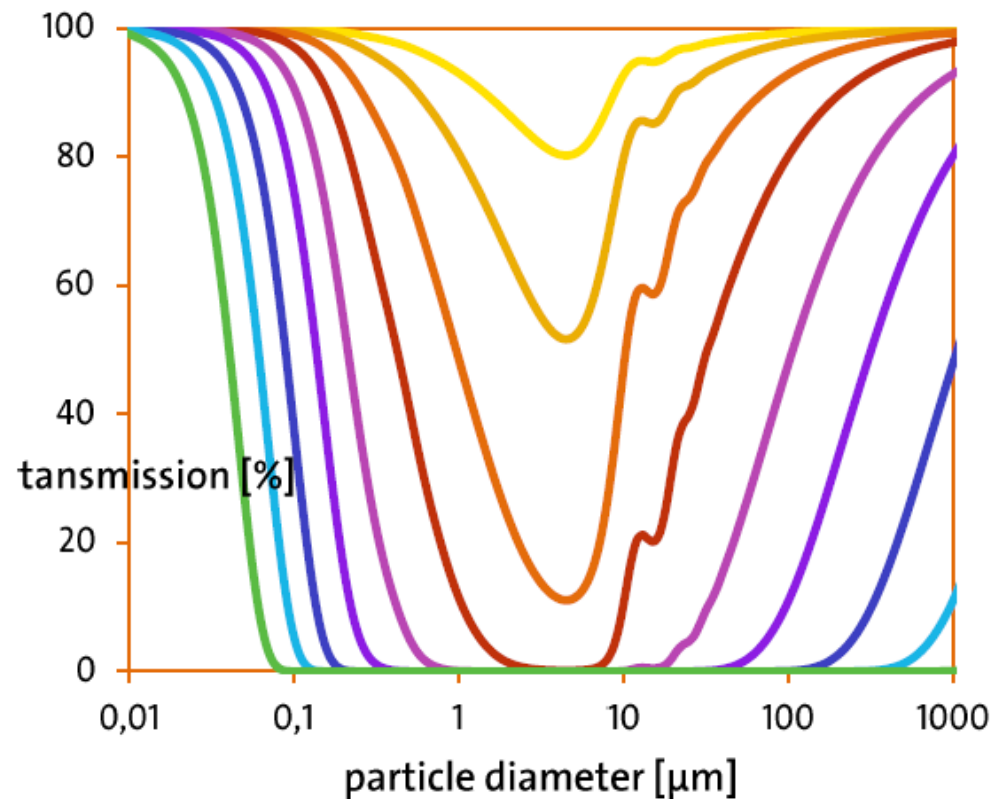


increasing volume concentration  $\phi$ :

- transmission decreases
  - more and more particles obstruct light passage
- backscattering increases
  - more particles → higher backscattering potential

# Optical analysis: Particle size dependence

silica particles in water



- at constant volume concentration  $\phi$  the number of particles decreases with increasing particle diameter!
- first particles become big enough to be encountered by the incident light
  - decreasing transmission, increasing backscattering
- then there are big but merely few particles and light is likely to just pass by
  - increasing transmission, decreasing backscattering

# Example 1: Polymer Solutions

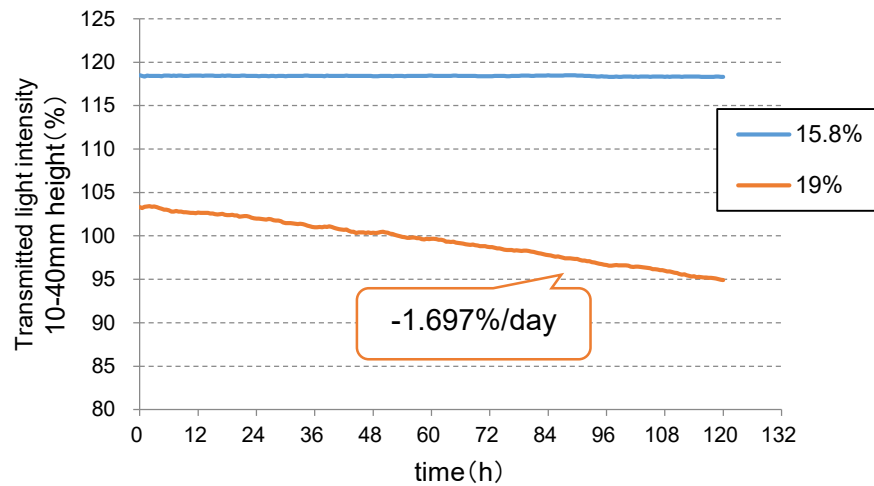
- Customer Information: Developer of polymers that are applied and processed as an aquatic solution to coat some surface by treating it with the solution and setting it for drying
- Goal: Determination of the maximum polymer concentration that is stable over a certain time.
- Samples: Customer sent us 2 samples with different concentrations of the polymer (15,8% polymer content and 19% polymer content)



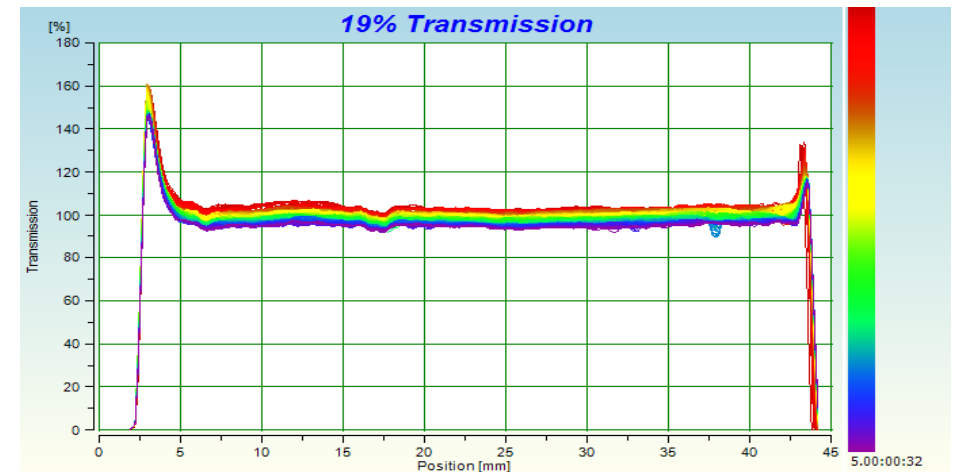
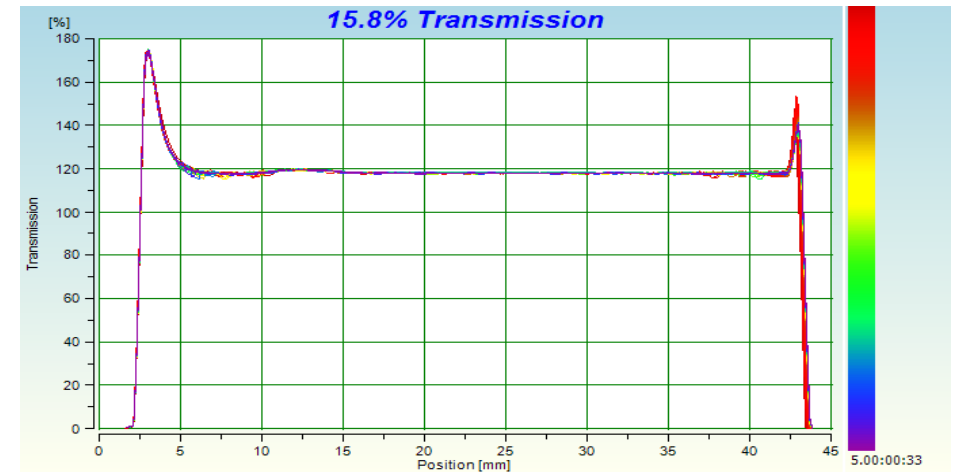


**Experiment:** Transmission measured over 5 days at room temperature for both samples

Evaluation with peak height method.

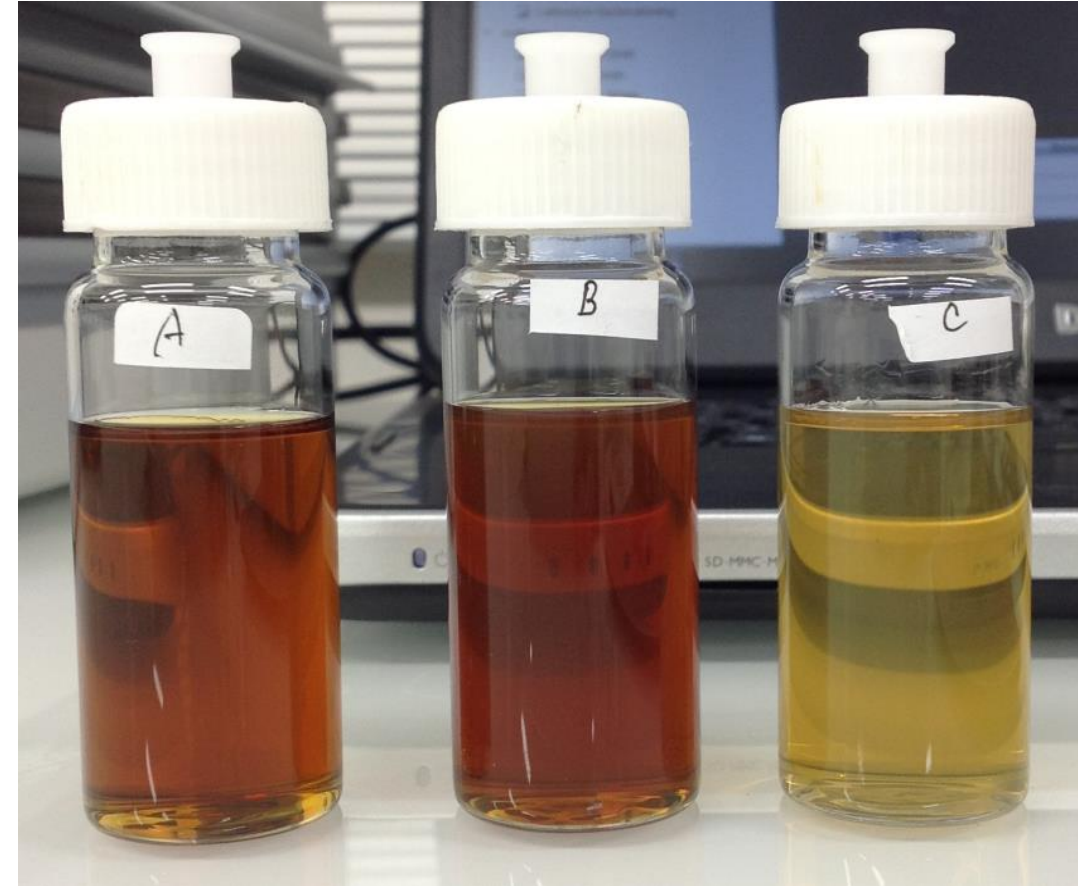


In the sample with 19% concentration, increasing cloudiness was observed over time.

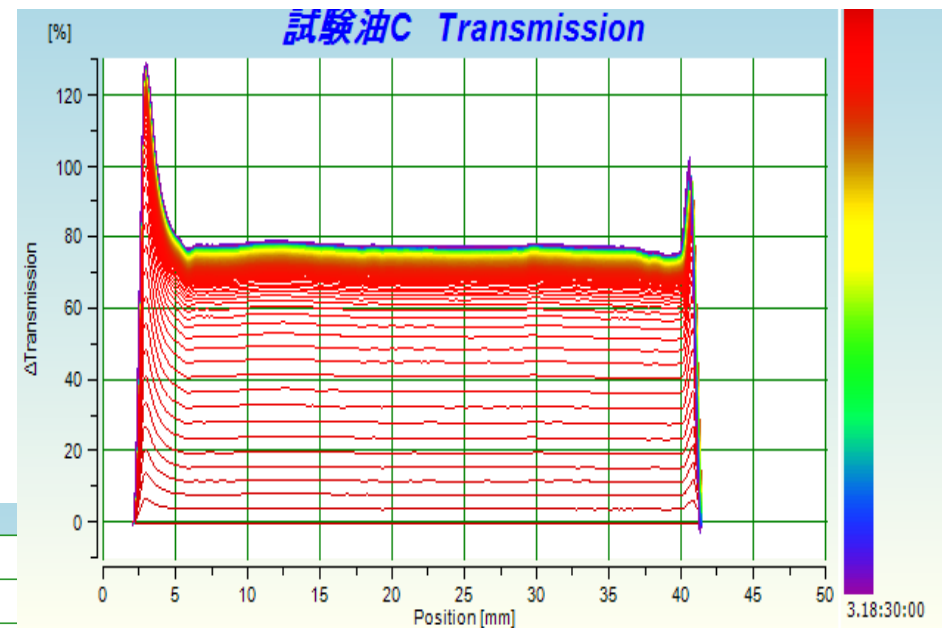
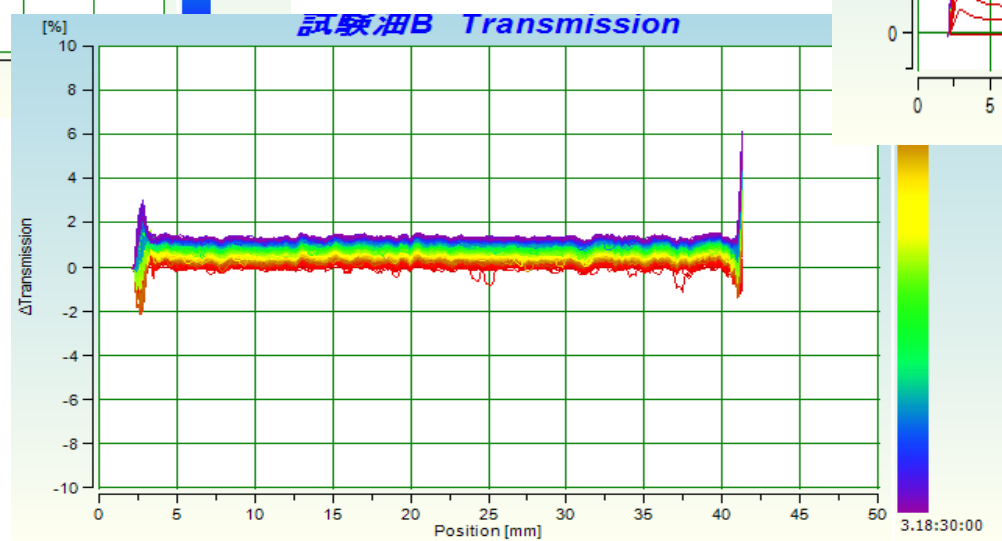
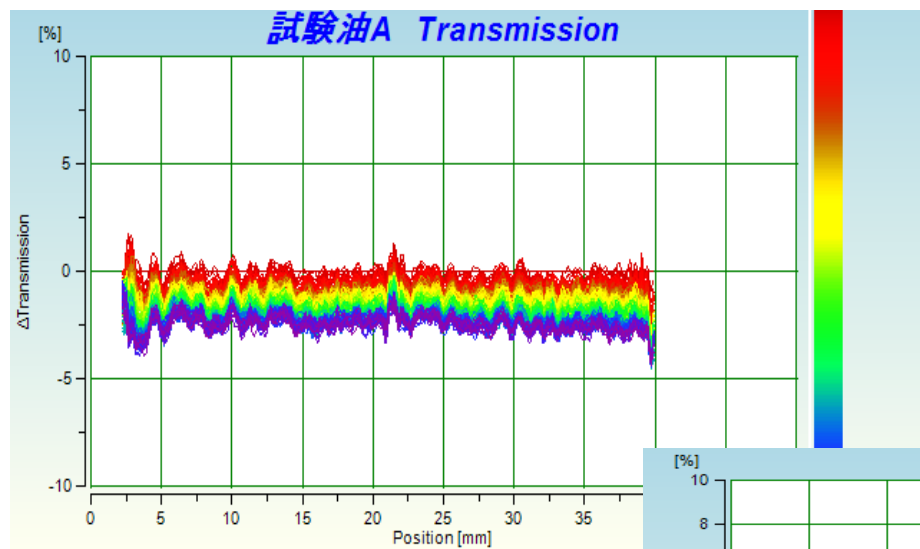


# Example 2: Motor Oil

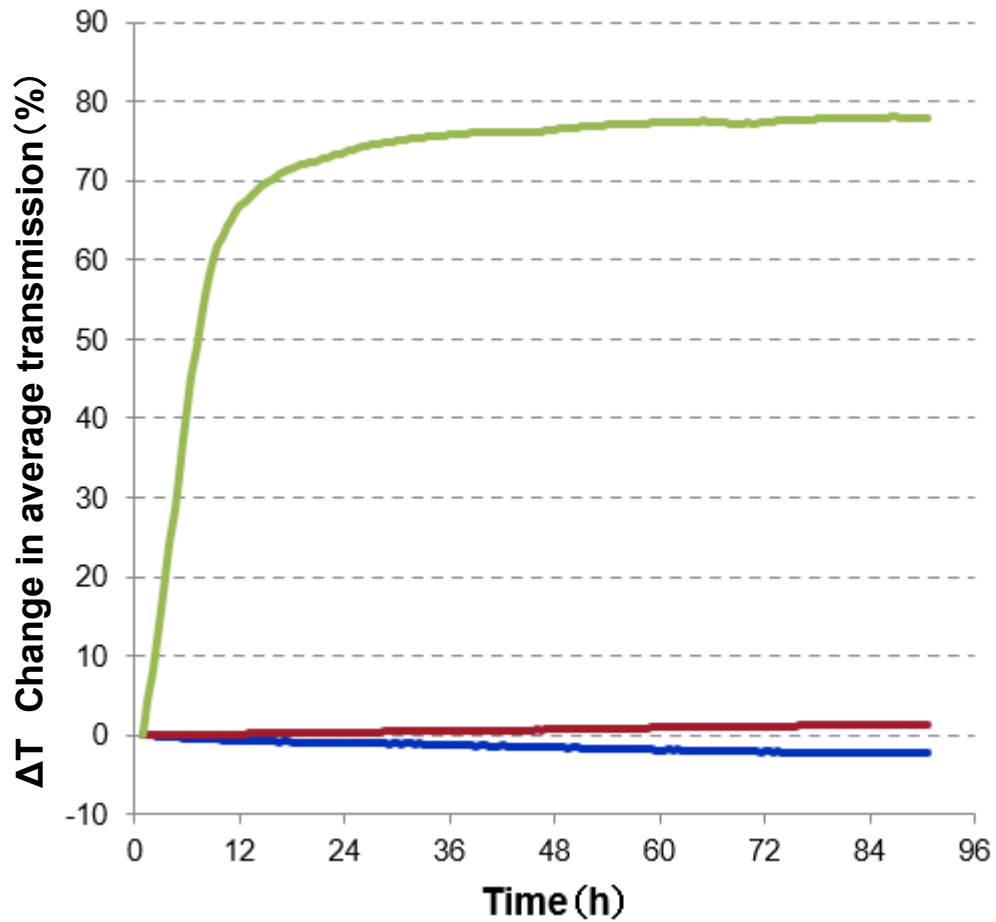
- Customer information: Developer of motor oils
- Process goal: Development of special oil with increased stability up to 60°C temp
- Samples for testing: 3 samples with different additives.
- Testing goal: Identification of the most stable product with the DataPhysics MS20



## Experiment: Transmission measured for 3 days at 60 °C







— A  
— B  
— C

	Change rate (%/day)	
	1-12 h	12-90 h
A	-0.58	
B	0.36	
C	164	2.24

Formulation C shows the lowest stability fast change especially in the first 12 h.

Stability Trend: B>A>C

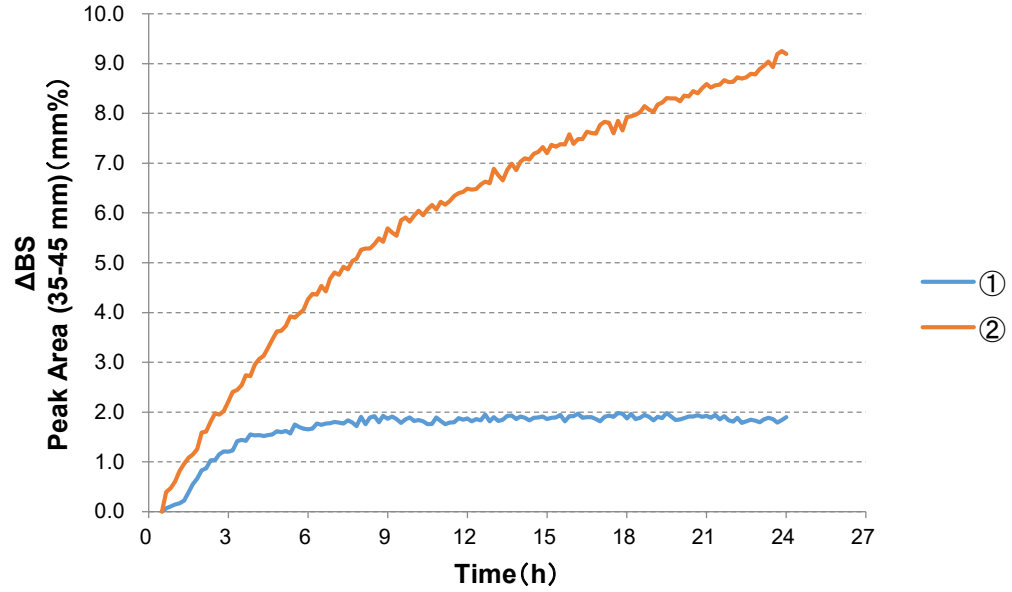
## Example 3: Seasonings for processed meat

- Customer Information: Developer of food additives
- Goal: Increase shelf stability of a seasoning by addition of different emulsifiers
- Samples: Customer provided 2 samples in with different emulsifiers



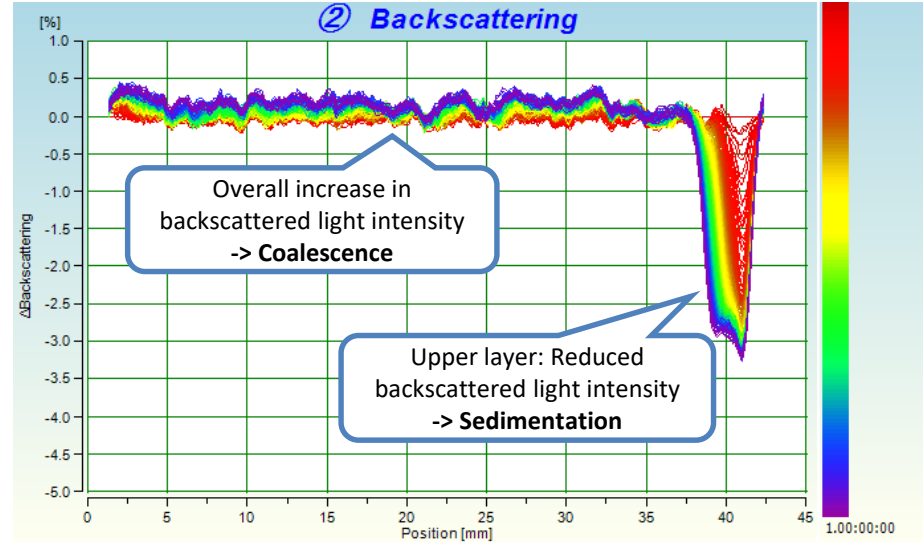
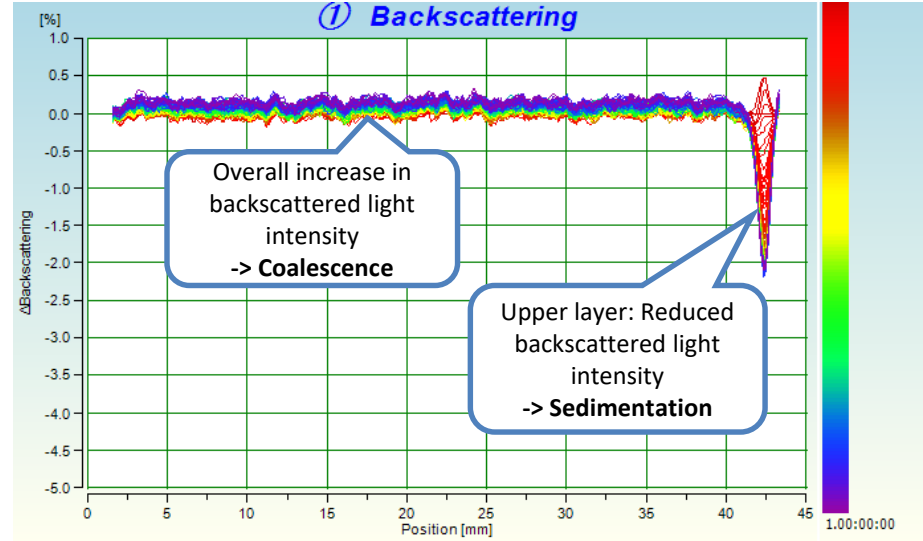
**Experiment:** Backscattering measured for 1 day  
at room temperature for samples 1-2

Samples show some sedimentation on top and a possible coagulation



	Peak Area(mm%/h)	
	0-6 h	6-24 h
①	0.29	-
②	0.72	0.25

Stability trend: ① > ②



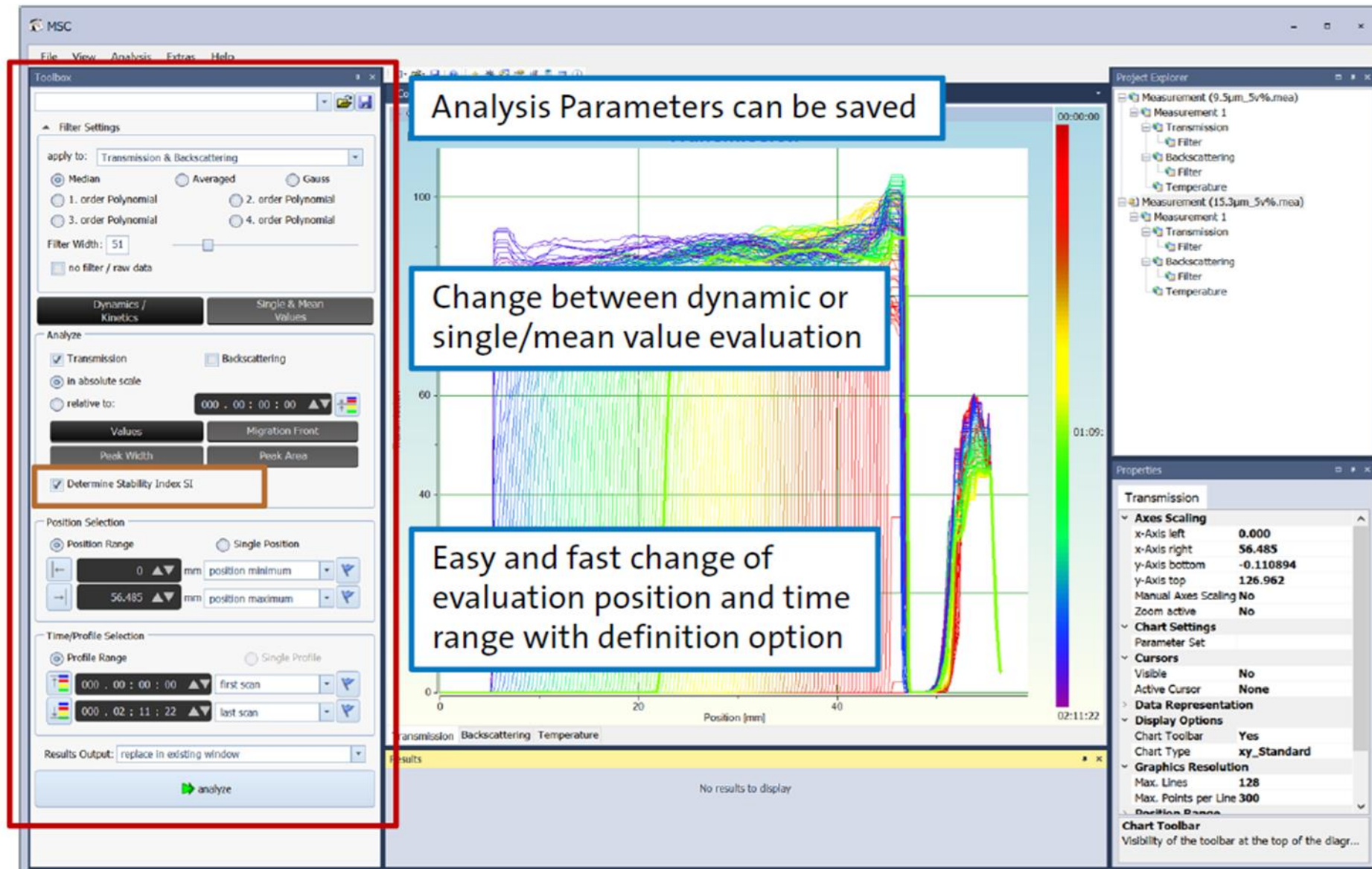


# Analysis Software : New look of Analysis Methods

Various filtering methods  
live change of filter width

Simultaneous evaluation  
of transmission and  
backscattering possible

Choice how new analysis  
should be displayed  
→ Possibility for  
direct comparison of  
evaluated results

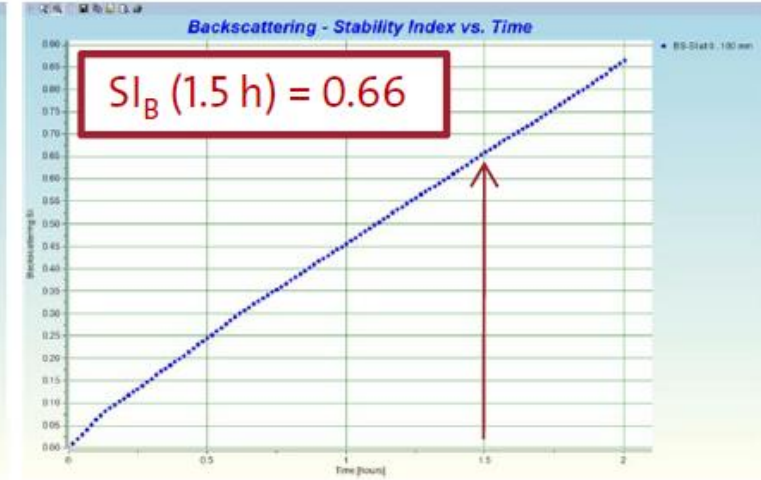
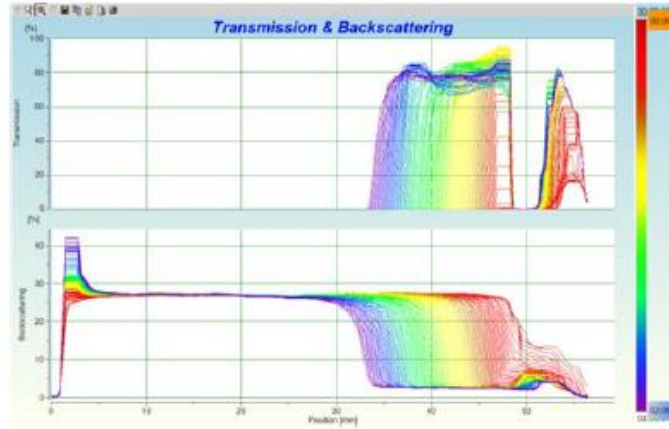


# Determination of Stability Index (SI) within the Values method

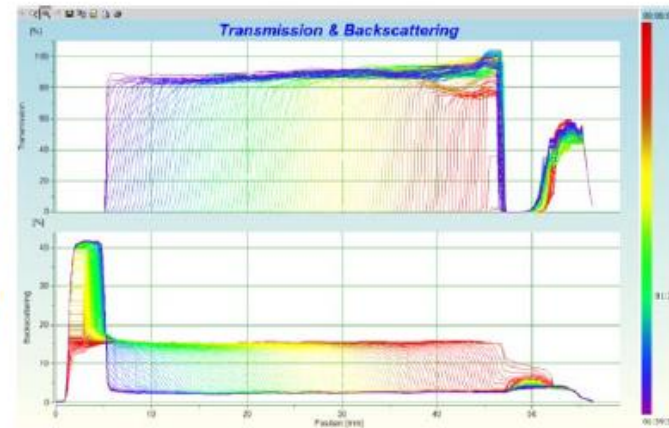
→ Stability of the system independent of the destabilization mechanism

→ Which system is more stable?

Sample 1:  
Small Particles



Sample 2:  
Big Particles

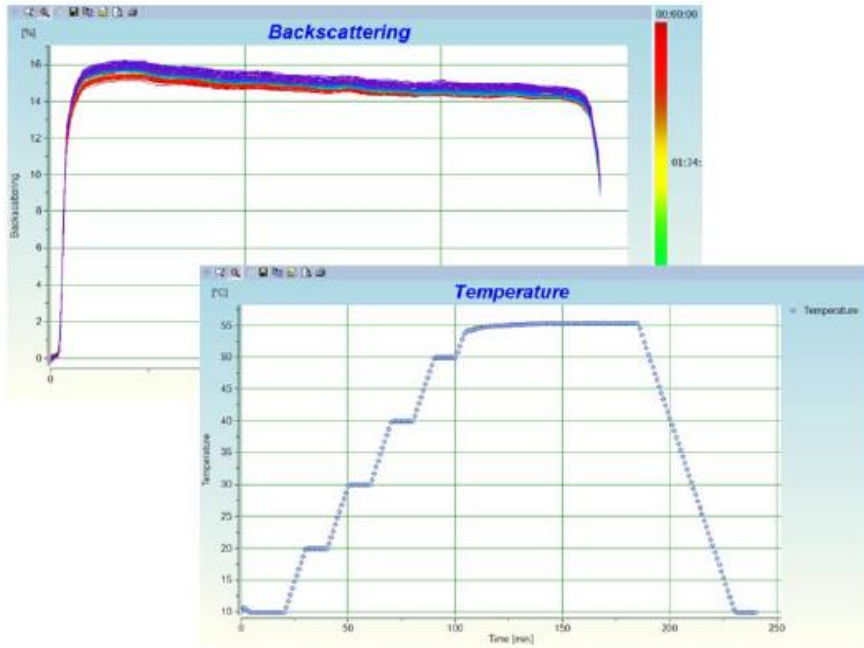


→ Sample 2 is less stable than sample 1

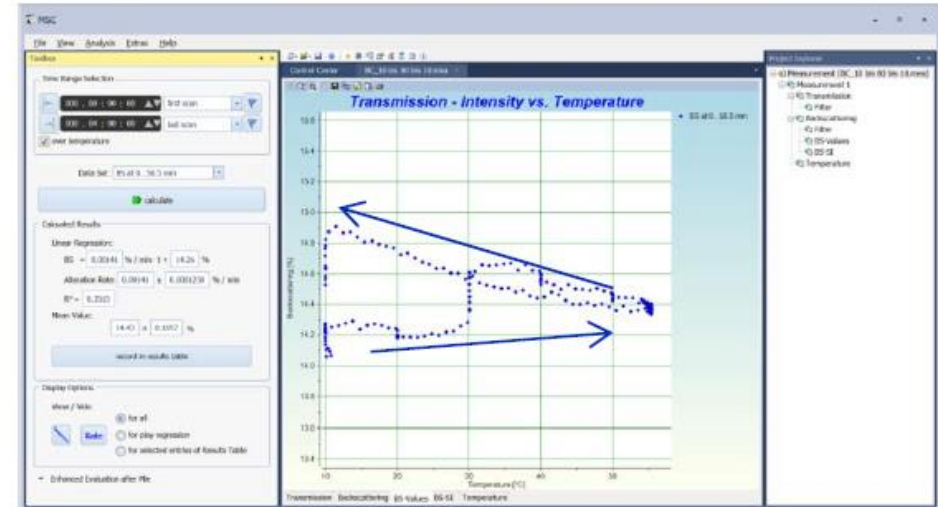
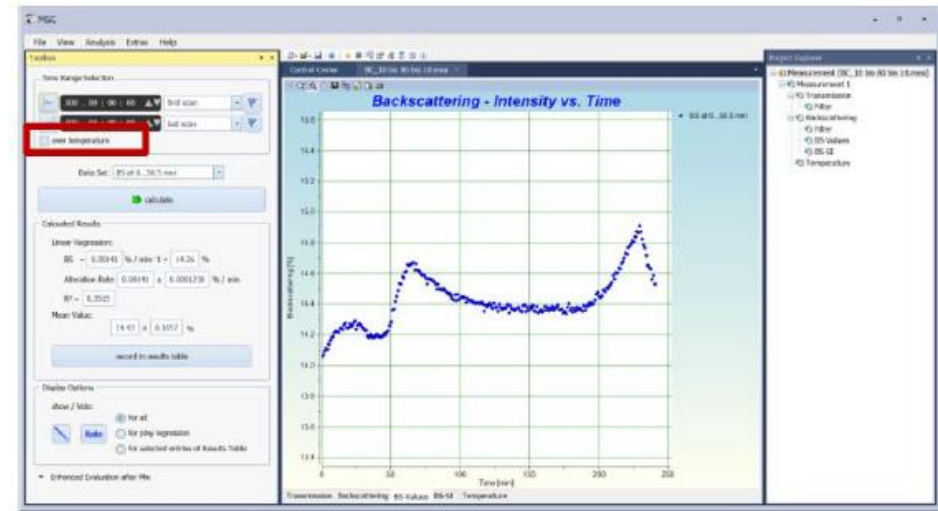


# Graphical representation of 'Intensity vs. temperature'

→ Influence of temperature on backscattering and transmission intensity can directly be displayed



→ Sample destabilization with temperature is irreversible!

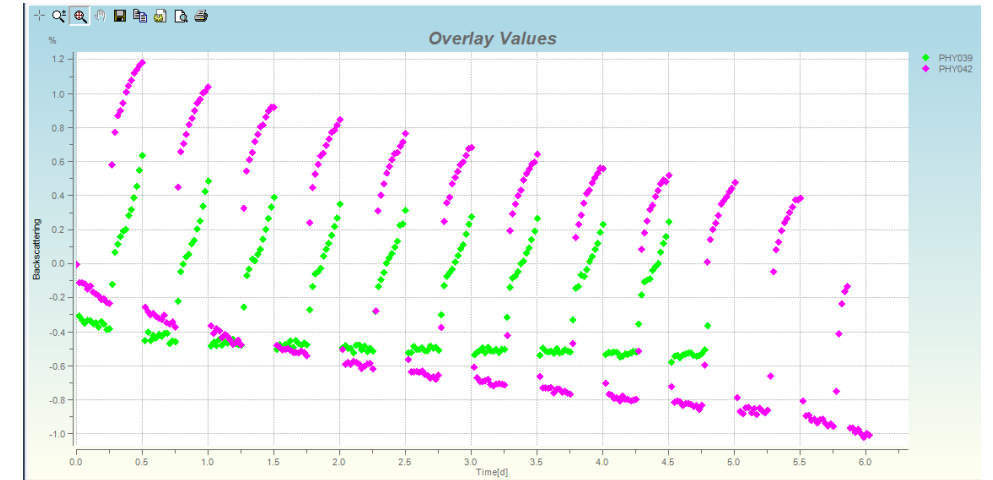
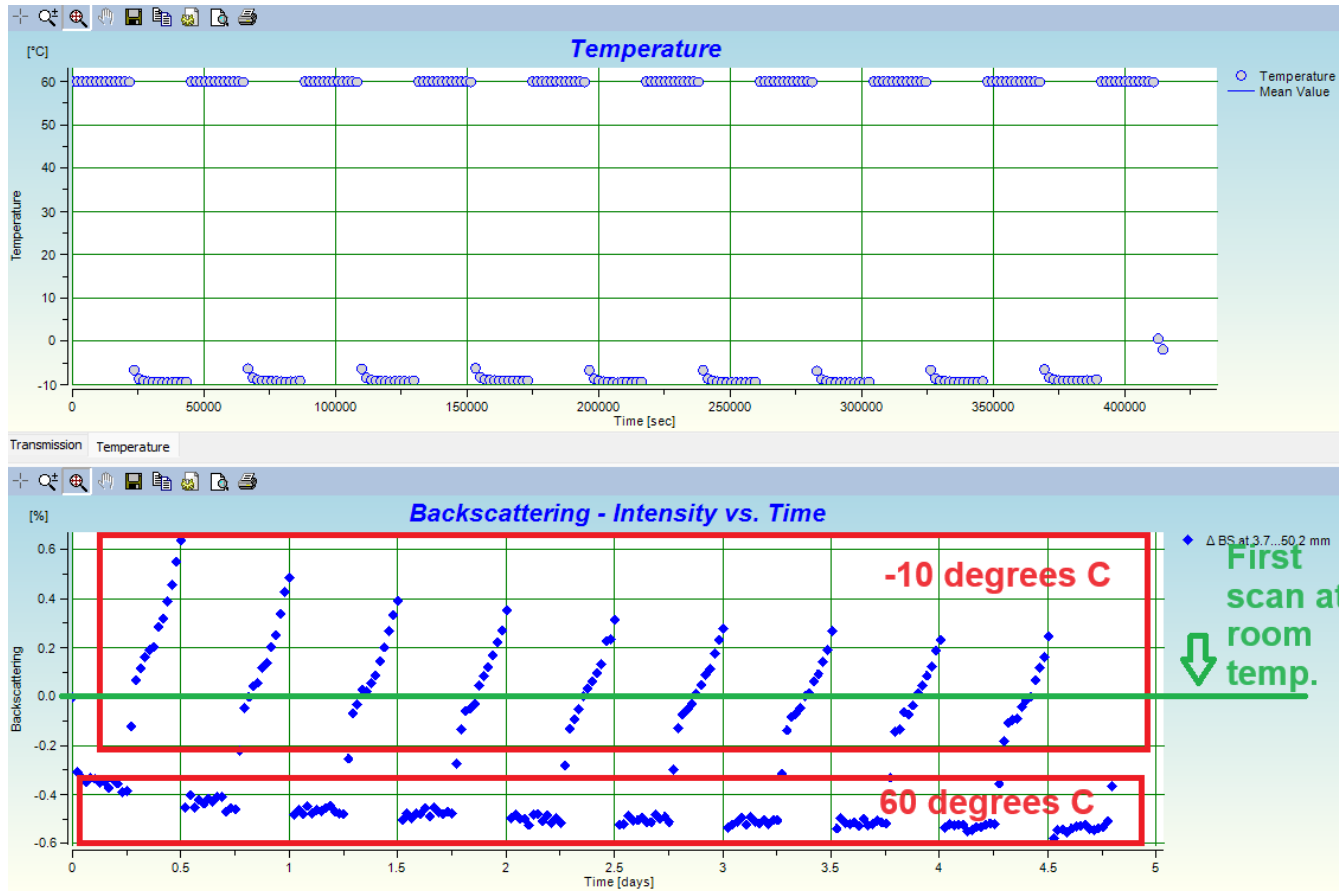




- Simple insulating sleeve of the tower allows temperature range for the measurement starting from -10 °C and up to 80 °C.
- Insulation of the tower makes it more heat efficient in the full range of temperatures.
- Measurements below 30 °C require external cooling circulator and dry gas purging to prevent condensation inside the tower.



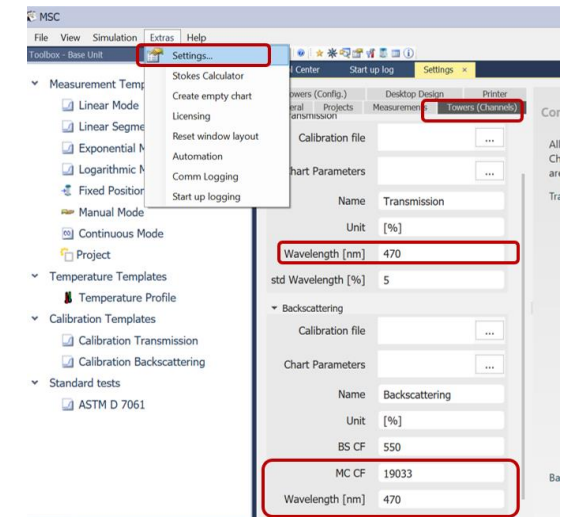
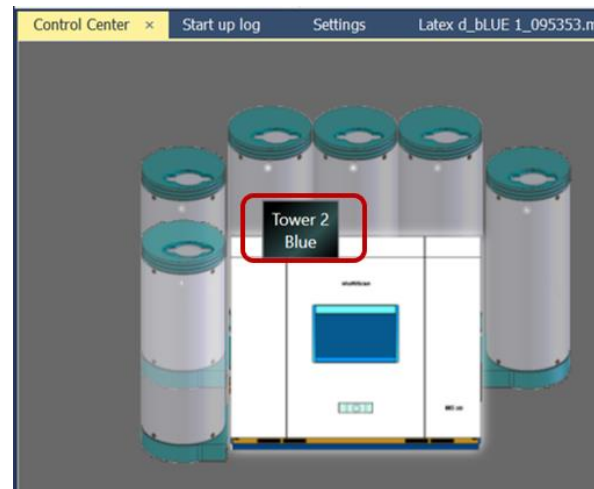
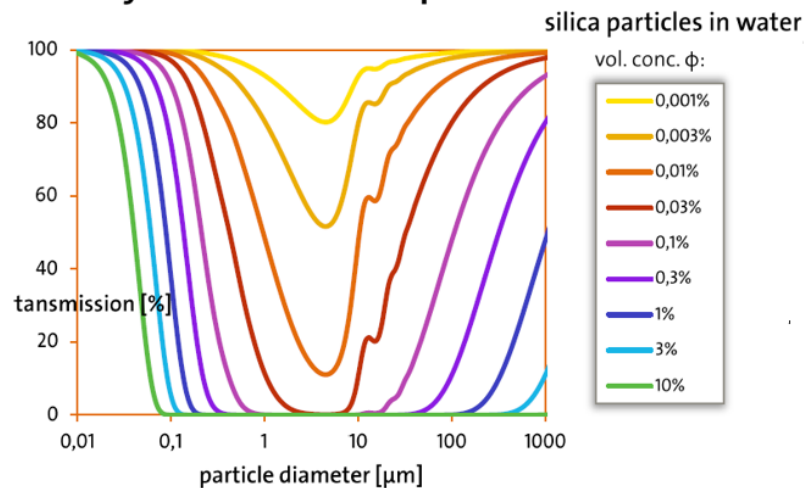
# Backscattering of two samples cycling between -10 and +60°C



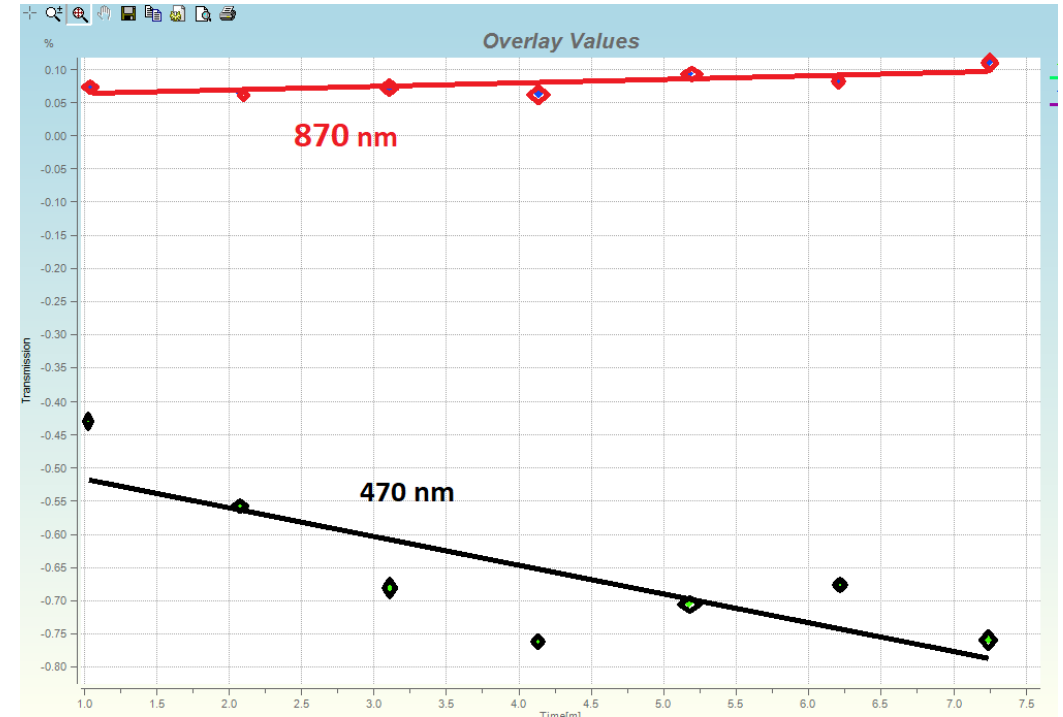
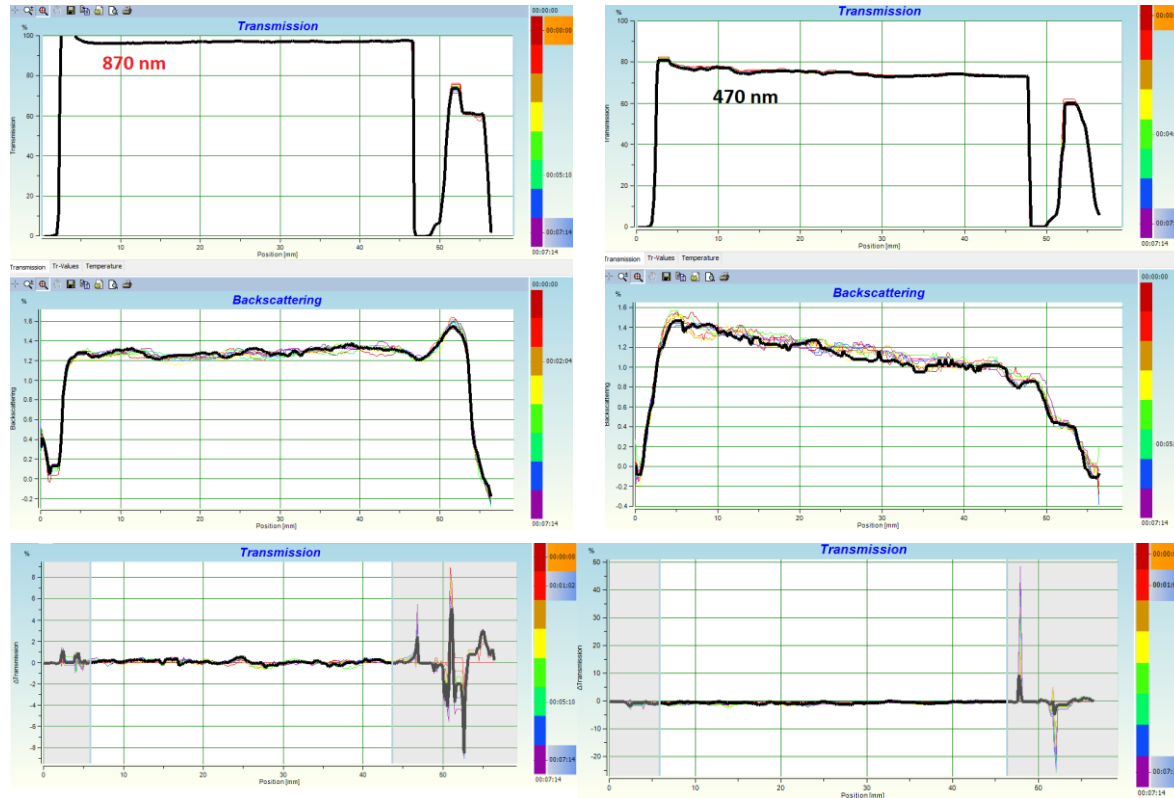
# Increased sensitivity to small size particles by modified wavelength light source

- 870 nm LED light source replaced with 470 nm.
- Changes made to LED light path slit.
- Software/firmware updates for automated detection of the measurement tower type.

## Optical analysis: Particle size dependence



# Increased sensitivity to small size particles by modified wavelength light source



- 1. Same sample of SiO<sub>2</sub> (particle size around 60 nm) with 470 nm tower shows stronger affect on transmission intensity in comparison to 870 nm tower.
- 2. 470 nm tower scans of the same sample show decrease in transmission intensity in just in 7 min, while 870 nm tower has much less change.

# Increased sensitivity to small size particles by modified wavelength light source.

Polystyrene microsphere suspension in water, density 0.998 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, viscosity 1.002 mPas, absolute values of transmission and backscattering measured every 13 sec for 40 seconds.

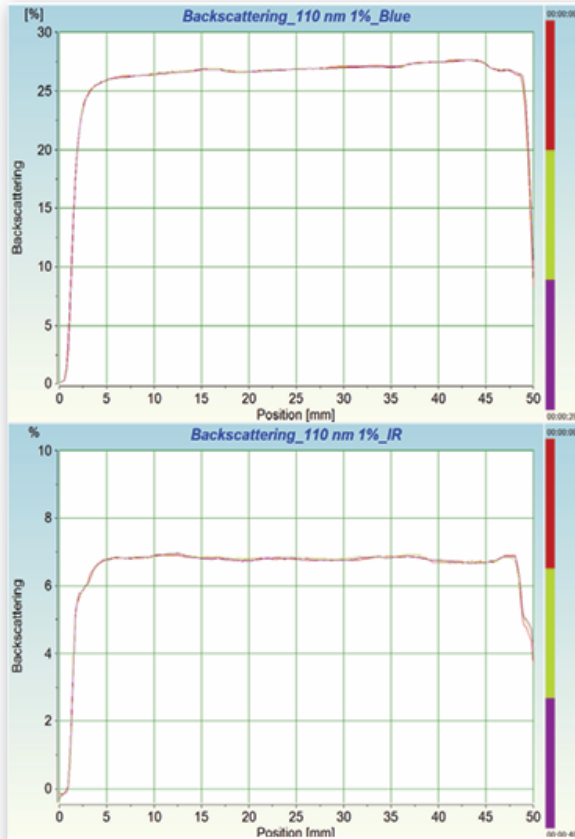
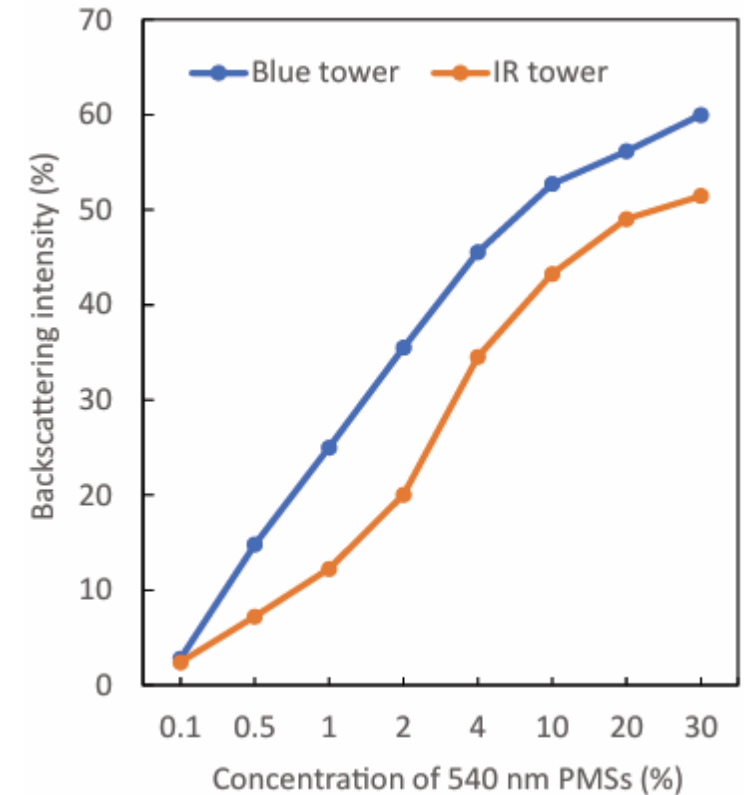


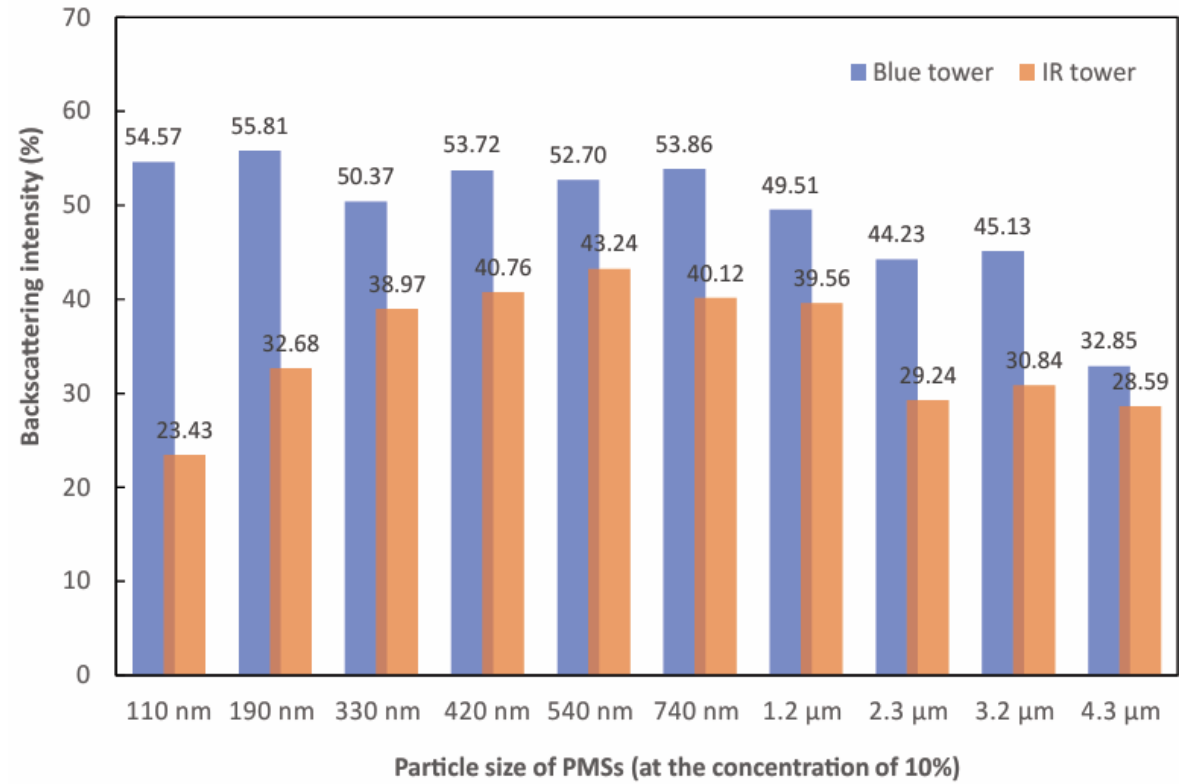
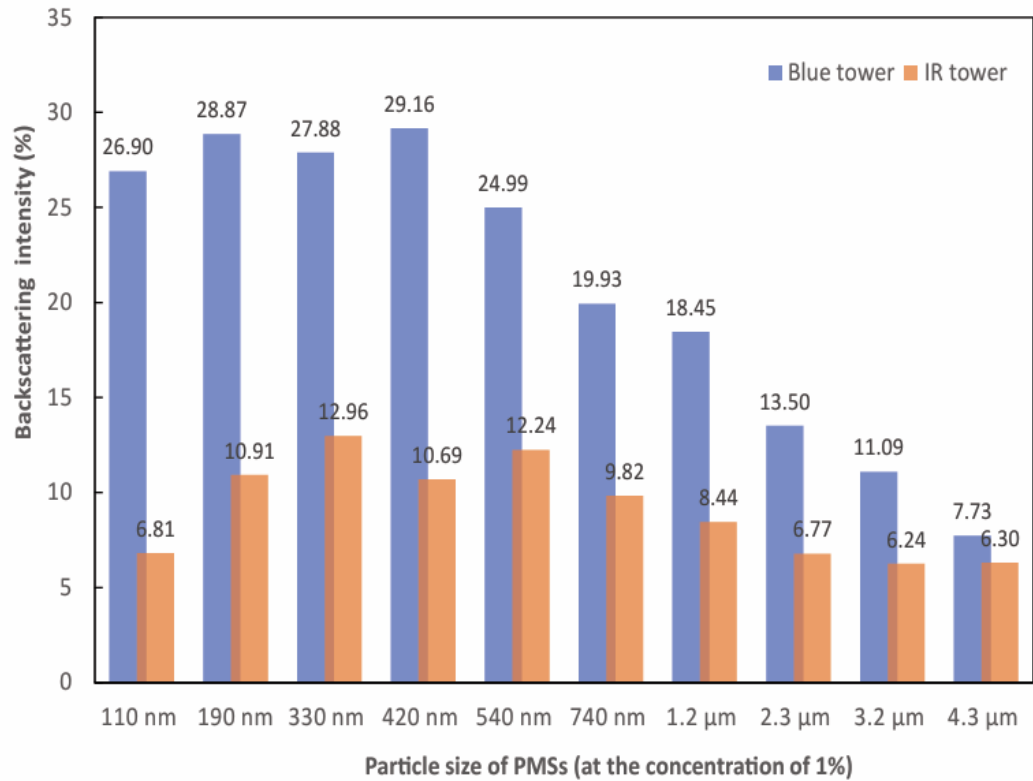
Fig. 3: Backscattering diagrams of 110 nm PMS at the volume concentration of 1% from Blue tower and IR tower, respectively

Table 1: Properties of the polymer microsphere suspensions

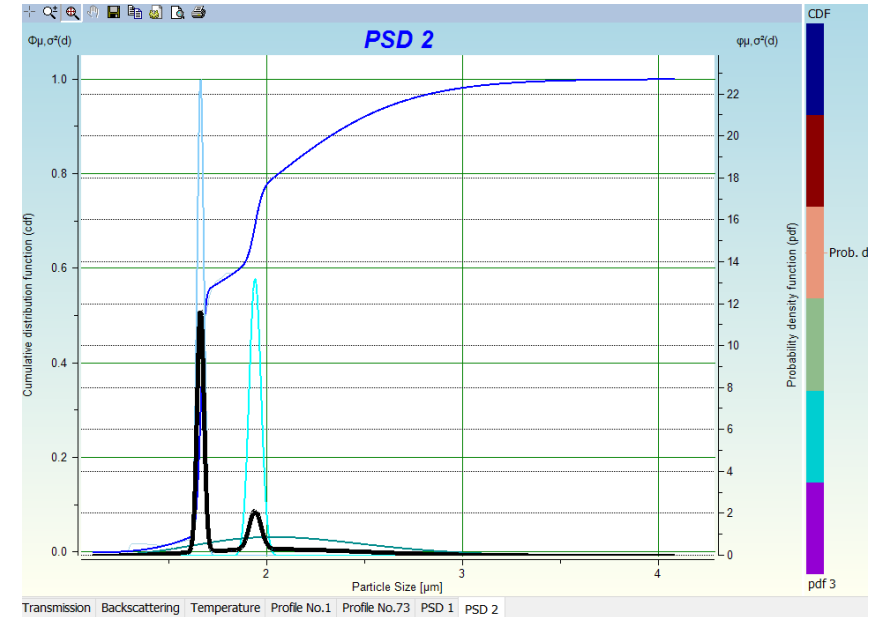
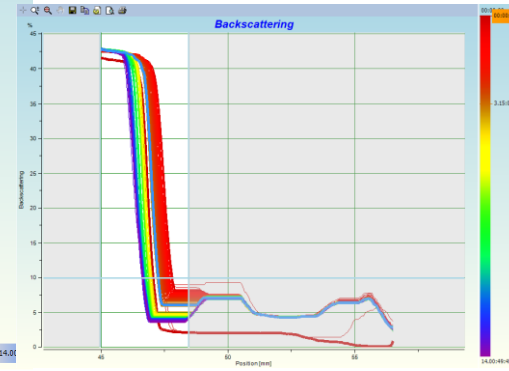
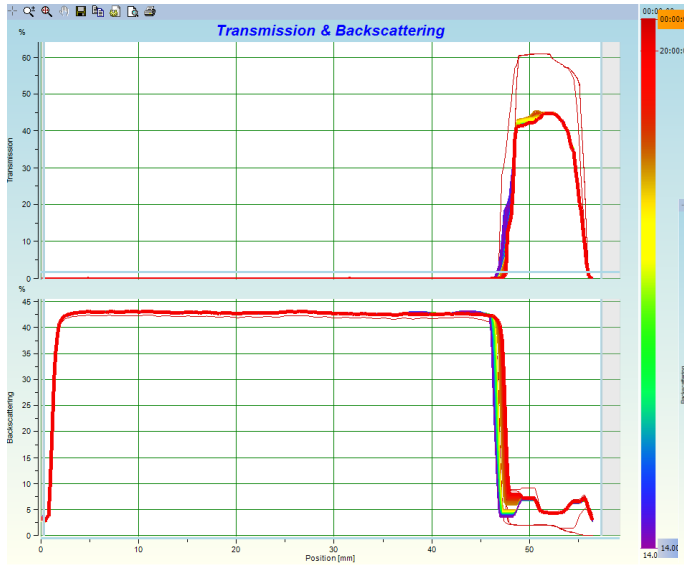
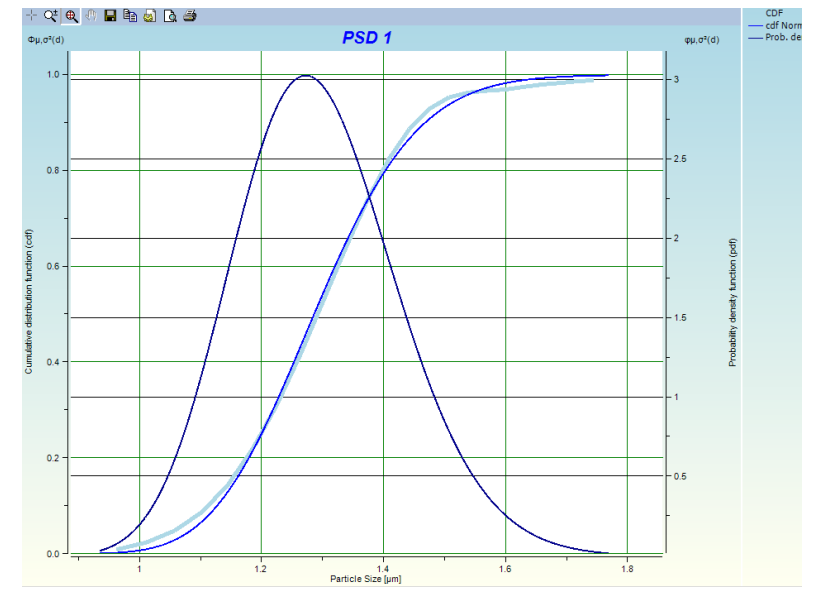
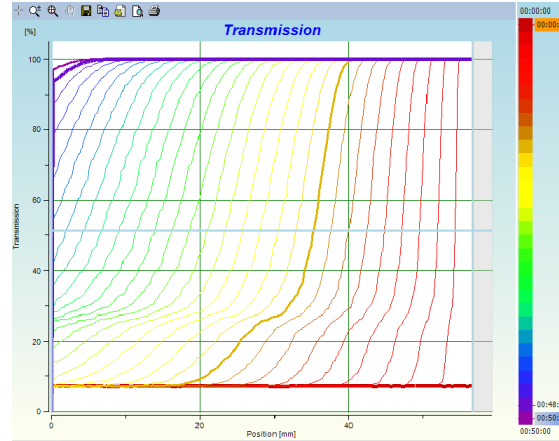
Particle size	Volume concentration (%)								
110 nm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
190 nm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
330 nm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
420 nm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
540 nm	0.1	0.5	1	2	4	10	20	30	
740 nm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
1.2 μm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
2.3 μm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
3.2 μm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	
4.3 μm	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	-	





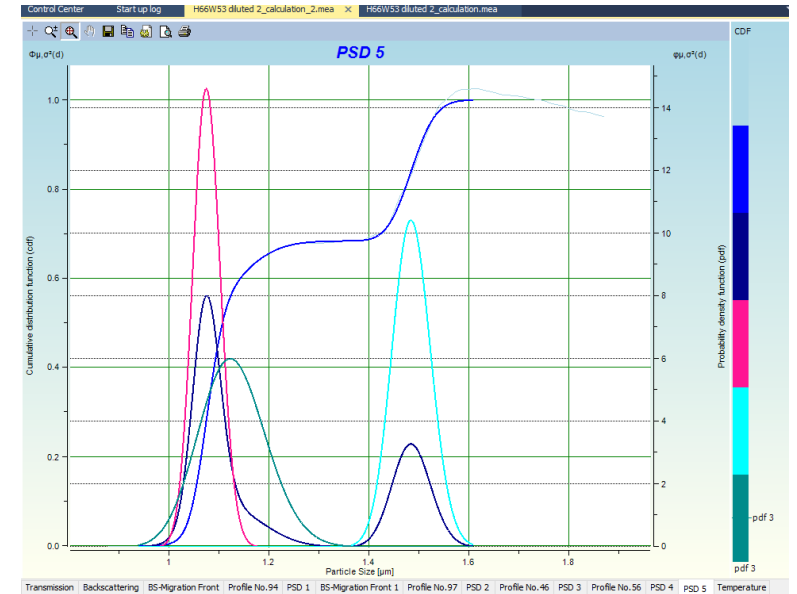
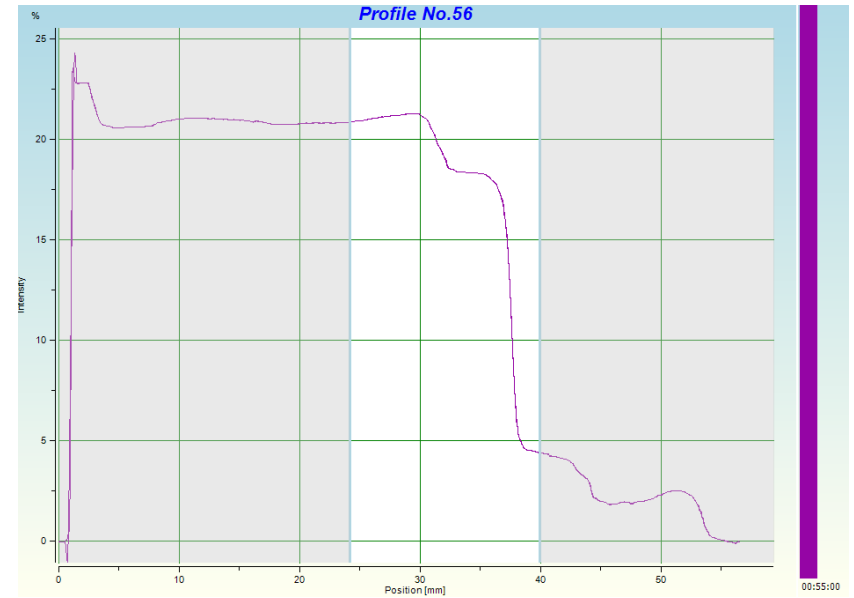
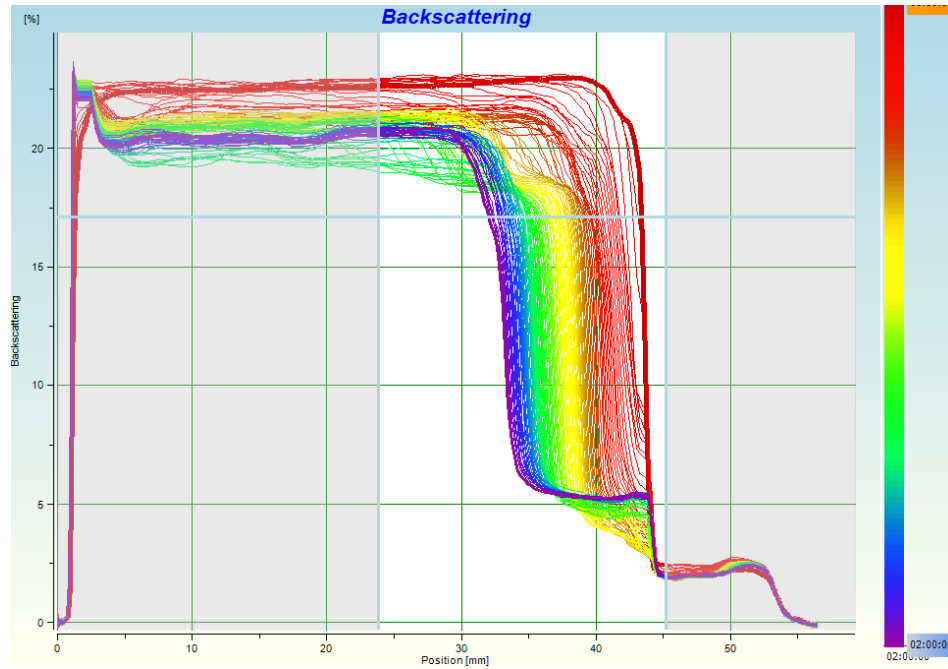


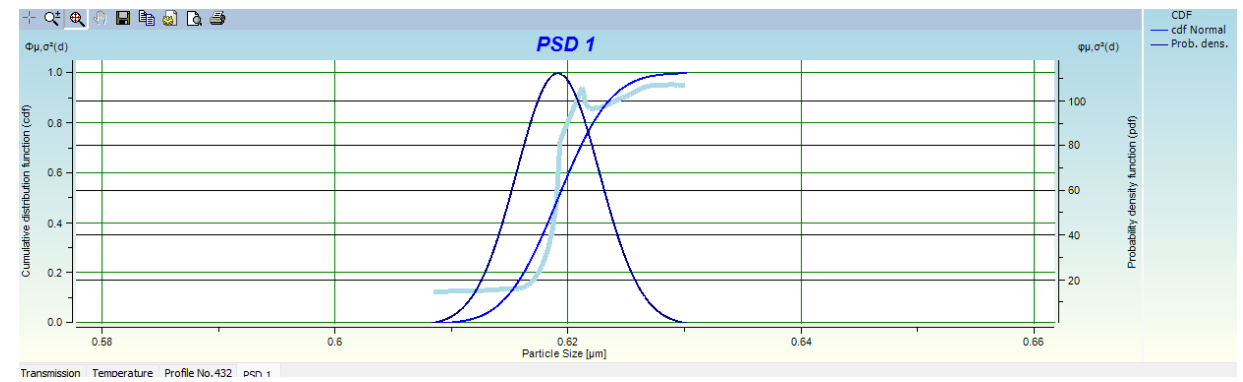
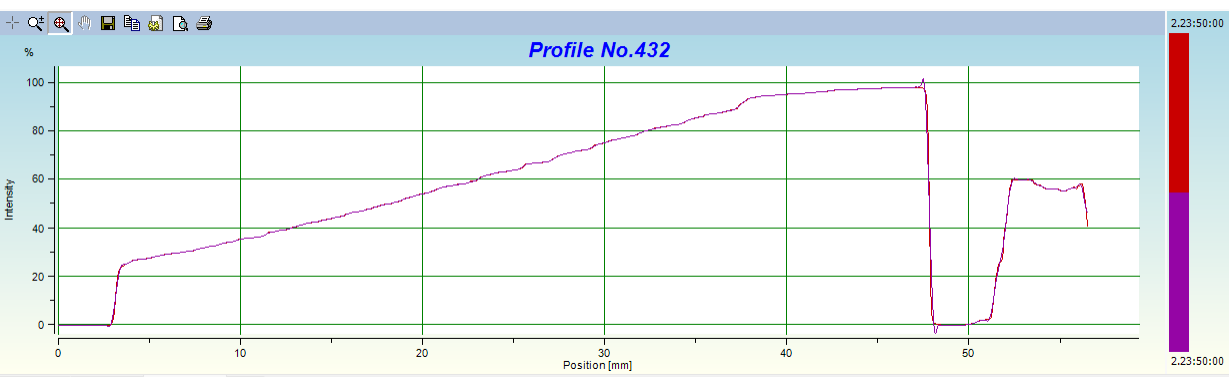
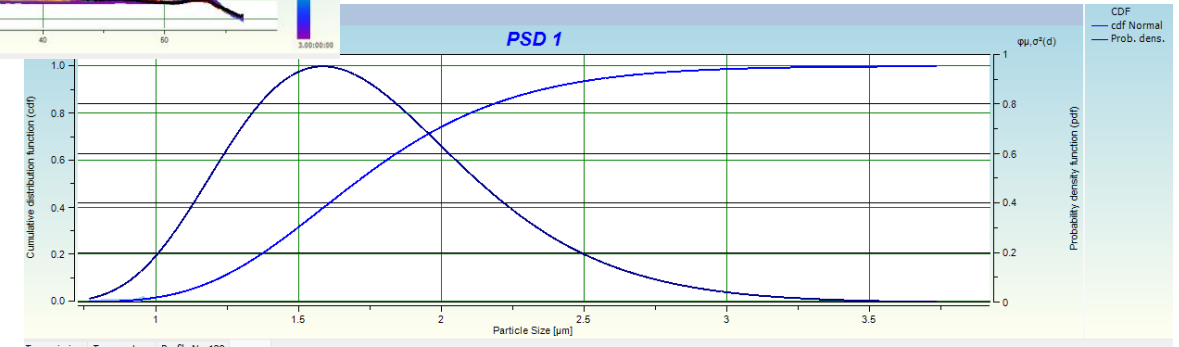
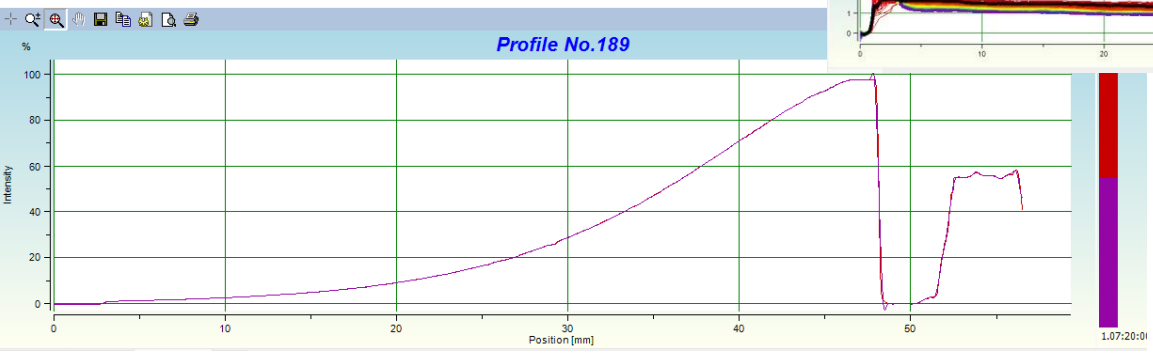
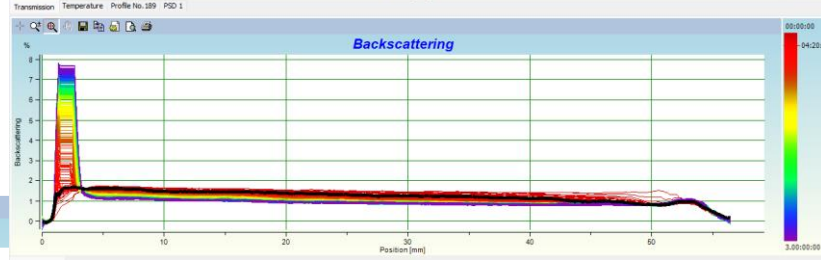
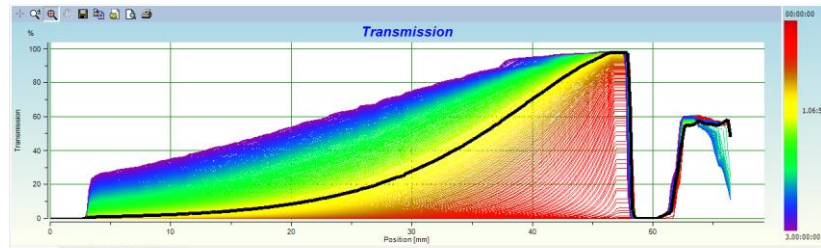
Calculation of average particle size and particle size distribution based on particle migration due to density difference.



# Coating sample with different size $\text{TiO}_2$ powder

- White paint sample diluted 200 times with water
- Goal: determine particle size distribution









**dataphysics**