

Combining Inline Instrumentation and Data Monitoring to Improve Efficiency

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Can AP Measure Extract Loss?

- Yes, we can help measure & reduce extract loss
 - Regardless of brewery size
- Increased, industry-wide focus on efficiency
- The reasoning is the same:
 - Conserve resources and raw materials
 - Increase productivity and profitability
- A little bit goes a long way:
 - A 200 000 bbl brewery: 0.5% extract loss = 1 000 bbl!





Continuous evaluation vital to detect issues early



How? Measurement Management!

- Systems must be robust, accurate, traceable, and easy to calibrate.
- Instrumentation must be calibrated regularly to ensure reliable data.
- Proper calibration is more important than the actual measurement!
- Exact calibration delivers exact results!

How? Measurement Management!

- Volume measurement not enough, only part of it
 - No concentration compensation
- Compensate flow with temperature & density
- Measure & evaluate each completed step
- Exceptions create gaps for extract losses
- Automated evaluation and reporting saves time
- Regular inventory checks a must to build overall efficiency profile



Cast wort vol./month – beer sold vol./month = volume lost

For example:

- 12 300 bbl 11 000 bbl = 1 300 bbl or 10.57%
- If loss usually 10.4%, you have a problem!

However, this is not the whole picture...





Basic Mass Balance

• Evaluation of extract loss is a basic mass balance based on kg (or lbs) of extract:

$$Y_{BH} = \frac{extract \ mass \ kg \ \times \ 100\%}{grist \ mass \ kg}$$

 Variations of this formula can be used throughout the entire brewery





- First place where efficiency and/or losses are measured
 - Malt/adjunct extract analysis \rightarrow mass balance start
- Extract fluctuates
 - Batch changes (seasonal, supplier), process control, grist quality, mash program, temperature, time, lauter program, sparge temperature, etc.
- Laboratory checks and validation
 - Residual extract in piping and vessels
 - Extract recovery from last runnings, hot break
 - Whole hops, pellets, & extract have different extract retention



Fermentation

This is where it starts to get complicated...

- Yeast quality, extract composition, O₂ concentration, temperature, attenuation, and more affect extract loss
- Compare:
 - Measured OE/OG before fermentation
 - Calculated OE/OG post fermentation
- Keep and monitor all records
 - Establish understanding through experience





- Balling formula, an amazing thing, but...
 - Fits all products some of the time, some products all of the time, but never all products all the time
- Please see "Balling's Formula scrutiny of a brewing dogma" from The Scandinavian School of Brewing^{*} for more details

* Nielsen, Kristiansen, Lassen, Erikstrøm. (2007). Balling's Formula – scrutiny of a brewing dogma. BRAUWELT INTERNATIONAL, 2007/II, 90-93



Filtration

- Filtration system dependent
 - Candle, sheet, separator, etc., piping volume, brewer's attention to detail, automation
- Tank lees another source of extract loss
 - Similar to beer transfer/phase detection
 - Longer filter runs prevent loss
 - Group like/similar products together
- Frequent product changes increase loss
 - Proper planning protects Plato production!



High Gravity Blending

- HGB, blending possible source of extract loss
 - Accurate inline measurement = accurate process control = extract savings
- Large investment not necessary
 - Evaluate/improve/optimize existing systems first
 - Get to know your system!
- Good process data worth the time
 - Find optimization potential
 - Fits well with an HACCP plan





- Repeated blending: quantitative brewhouse to bottle batch analysis impossible
- Analysis over time and by brand only option
- Phase detection prevents losses
- Longer filler runs prevent losses
 - Group like/similar products together
- Frequent product changes increase losses

Proper planning protects °Plato production!



Phase Detection

- Don't forget the piping...
 - Push product by volume/time inaccurate
 - Measurement is better and automatable
 - Conductivity, color, extract, alcohol
 - Losses possible before/after each batch
- Don't forget the wastewater...
 - Increase extract loss awareness
- Keep sensors calibrated and maintained...



Good Brewing Practices

 See the MBAA's "Minimum Good Brewing Practices for the U.S. Brewing Industry" http://www.mbaa.com/brewresources/foodsafety/haccp/ Pages/GBPs.aspx





Well, we ...

- measure product in-line and in the lab
 - Extract, alcohol, CO₂, O₂, color, turbidity, etc.
- can incorporate other, existing inputs
 - Flow, conductivity, etc.
- can combine them into a useable format
- show, record and analyze process data
- calculate Process Capability & Quality Index

So ...



The statistical distribution of weighted data covering six equal ranges across a specified range which is defined by the:

- Lower specification limit (LSL)
- Upper specification limit (USL)

 $QI \% = 1.0 \times (\% inner bands)$ + 0.6 × (% middle bands) + 0.4 × (% outer bands)



Defined LSL, USL



Trend chart with defined LSL and USL



Extract °Plato









Expanded Anton Paar software functions:

- Combine existing sensors in a complete system
 - Flow meter + extract/alcohol sensor = total mass
- Flow meter input allows calculation of:
 - Volume
 - Total Volume
 - Total Mass
 - Total Extract Mass
 - Total Extract Volume

- Extract weighted average
- Total Alcohol Mass
- Total Alcohol Volume
- Alcohol weighted average





- Extract loss is everywhere... Go find it!
- Become more familiar with your process.
- Get to know and understand installed systems.
- Consistent & stable is good, sudden is bad.
- Proper calibration is more important than the actual measurement!
- Phase detection and fewer phases.

Thank You!

"measure what is measurable and make measurable what is not" - Galileo Galilei