Method of Standard Additions (MSA/SA)



## Definition

The standard addition technique involves adding known amounts of standard to one or more aliquots of the processed sample solution, compensating for a sample constituent that enhances or depresses the analyte signal.

For multi-point, the absorbance of each solution is determined and then plotted on the vertical axis of a graph, with the concentrations of the known standards plotted on the horizontal axis.



## **Definition Cont.**

When the resulting line is extrapolated to zero absorbance, the point of interception of the abscissa is the endogenous concentration of the analyte in the sample. The abscissa on the left of the ordinate is scaled the same as on the right side, but in the opposite direction from the ordinate.

SW-846 7000B/7010 Section 9.7







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A linear regression program may be used to obtain the intercept concentration:

Y = mx + b

Where m = slope b = y intercept

TRUE VALUE OF SAMPLE:2 x(-b)





## **Limitations of MSA**

- 1. Must be linear over the conc. range of concern. The slope of the MSA plot should be < than 20% difference from the original standard curve.
- 2. Effect of the interference should not vary as the ratio of analyte conc. to sample matrix changes, and the SA should respond in a similar manner as the analyte.
- 3. Must be free of spectral interference and corrected for nonspecific background interference.

**Ref: SW-846 7000B, Section 8.7 & 7010, Section 9.7** 

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## Benefit

When matrix effects appear or are to be expected and matrix-matched calibration samples are not available, the standard addition method (SAM) can be the calibration method of choice.

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### Disadvantages

1. Time consuming to perform a full calibration for one sample.

- 2. It will not correct for additive interferences which cause a baseline shift.
- 3. Inaccuracies in preparing the spiked samples can seriously affect the slope of the line, causing errors to be made in the determining the original concentration.

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