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Objective:

The following document describes the standard operating procedure for Polarimeter.

Scope:

The Polarimeter is a tool which helps in measuring the optical activity of sample by rotating the plane polarised light either in clock wise or anti-clockwise direction.

Procedure:

- 1. Ensure that equipment & tube is clean.
- 2. Set up the instrument on the bench with the analyzer head facing the operator, an illuminated sodium lamp is attached with equipment through a bracket.
- 3. Switch ON the mains.
- 4. **Switch ON** the Sodium vapour lamp by pushing the switch of transformer downward. The red indicator will glow on transformer and then wait for 5-minutes so that Sodium vapour lamp gets illuminated completely.
- 5. The position of Sodium vapour lamp is such that the field can be seen clearly while viewing through lower eyepiece.
- 6. Adjust the lower & upper eye piece & focus it by sliding it towards your eye or away from your eye to view the clearly.
- 7. After focusing the upper eye piece you will see the scale graduation & a vertical line called reference line.
- 8. Rinse the tube with the solvent used and fill the tube with the solvent in such a manner that there should not be any air bubble.
- 9. Place the tube in the cabinet and close it.
- 10. Now see through the lower eye piece and match the colour shade to similar in both section by rotating the knob placed on the opposite to eye piece.

- 11. Take the reading by viewing through upper eye piece.
- 12. If the reference line do not coincide with the scale then adjust with micrometer drum knob.
- 13. Take the reading in + or -.
- 14. Deduct the reading of solvent from reading of liquid/sample and calculate the specific optical rotation.
- 15. After completion of work open the cabinet, remove the tube and **CLEAN** it thoroughly.
- 16. Switch OFF the Sodium vapor lamp.

Precautions:

- 1. Fill the tube in such a manner that there should not be any air bubble.
- 2. The temperature of solvent / solution should be $25^{\circ}C \pm 1^{\circ}C$.
- 3. Ensure that the solution is clear.

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