Science Together

Azura

Nano Flow Cell Supplement



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Note: Please read the corresponding technical documentation for handling and safety reasons.

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1. Product information

The KNAUER nano flow cell with fiber optic connectors combined with KNAUER AZURA® UV detectors is the perfect choice for UV monitoring at low flow rates, particularly in connection with an MS detector.

Location in system: The flow cell can be located directly behind the column in order to minimalize extra column volume and consequently improve peak shape.

Compatible detectors: This nano flow cell is compatible with the following KNAUER fiber optic version detectors:

- AZURA® UVD 2.1S, UVD 2.1L, DAD 6.1L, DAD 2.1L, MWD 2.1L
- Smartline 2520 and 2600.

Biocompatibility: As all wetted parts are biocompatible, the flow cells are suitable for LC and Bio LC applications.

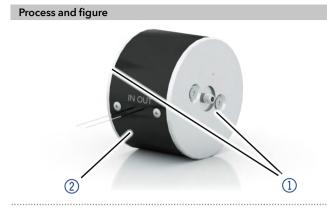
2. Installation

Note: Before connecting the flow cell to your system, flush your column with mobile phase to keep your flow cell clean.

Process and figure

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- 1. Unpack the flow cell.
- 2. Remove the protective hoods from the flow cell's fiber optic connectors ①.
- 3. Remove the protective hoods from the fiber optic cables.
- 4. Connect the detector and flow cell via fiber optic cables.
- 5. Connect the capillaries to the flow cell (2).



Protective hoods: Keep the protective hoods for storage purposes. The hoods protect the fiber optic connectors from contamination and solarization.

Fiber optics: Observe the following regarding the use of fiber optics:

- Do not touch the ends of the fiber optics with your fingers, as this could falsify the measurement and affect the flow cell performance.
- Handle the fiber optics with care, avoid impacts or hard actions.
- Move the fiber optics carefully without using pressure or bending it.

NOTICE

Component defect

The capillaries are brittle and can get damaged.

- \rightarrow Handle the capillaries with care.
- → Flow cells with damaged capillaries must be replaced (no repair possible)

3. Maintenance

3.1 Routine maintenance tasks

In order to obtain optimal performance, minimal routine maintenance of the flow cell is required.

- It is very important to flush buffered mobile phase out of the flow cell each time the system is shut down. This safeguards the flow cell from clogging.
- Filtered and degassed mobile phase is recommended in order to reduce baseline noise and drift, decrease fluctuations of the system pressure and prolong operating life of the column.
- Make sure fiber optic ends are clean. Never touch the ends with your fingers as this could lead to contamination which reduces the performance of the flow cell (intensity, wavelength accuracy). Should this occur however, clean with a lens cloth moistened with alcohol or a cotton swab.
- Use methanol, ethanol or isopropanol to fill the flow cell to prevent microbial growth when the flow cell is not in use (see "Storage" on page 5).

3.2 Cleaning the flow cell

The contamination of the flow cell can lead to:

- decreased light intensity
- increased baseline noise and drift
- calibration failure

Therefore, the flow cell should be periodically flushed or cleaned. The following solvents are recommended for cleaning:

- pure water (when using buffers)
- ethanol or methanol



Note: When the mobile phase is not mixabe in water, you can use an intermediary solvent (e.g. isopropanol) before resuming flow.

3.3 Cleaning fibre optic ends

WARNING

Eye injury

Eye irritation by UV light. Bundled UV light can escape from the flow cell or fiber optic cables.

→Before replacing the flow cell, switch off the detector and disconnect it from the power supply.

Never touch fiber optic ends with your fingers as this could lead to contamination which reduces the performance of the flow cell (intensity, wavelength accuracy). Should this occur however, clean with a lens cloth moistened with alcohol or a cotton swab.

3.4 Storage

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Note: Never store the flow cell in pure water to prevent microbial growth.

Process

- 1. Flush the flow cell with an appropriate solvent.
- 2. Disconnect the capillaries.
- 3. Disconnect the fiber optic cables.
- 4. Seal the fiber optic connectors and cables with hoods.

4. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible cause and solution
Increased flow cell back pressure	 Pressure due to dirty flow cell: clean flow cell
Leak	 Leak due to overpressure: reduce flow
	 Leak due to damaged flow cell: flow cell must be replaced (no repair possible)
Increased baseline noise/	 Contamination due to dirty flow cell: clean flow cell
sensitivity	 Contamination due to dirty fiber optic ends: clean fiber optic ends

5. Technical data

Parameter	Value
Path length	3 mm
Capillary connection	375 μm OD
Flow cell volume	6 nl
Inner diameter	50 µm
Maximum flow rate	1 μl/min
Maximum pressure	300 bar
Wetted parts	Fused silica

6. Repeat orders

Name	Order no.
KNAUER Nano Flow Cell, 3 mm, 6 nl	A4104
2 x fiber optic cables, 750 mm	A0740
2 x fiber optic cables, custom made length	A0743

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Latest KNAUER instructions online: https://www.knauer.net/en/Support/User-manuals

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