

LABORATORY OF THERMAL ENGINEERING

The Laboratory of Thermal Engineering provides support to the design and tests of prototypes of thermal devices and components. It consists of specialized equipment for the determination of relevant thermophysical properties for the characterization of the thermal behavior of materials in solid and liquid phase, as well as Phase Change Materials, PCM.

Contact

Ana Lázaro (ana.lazaro@unizar.es)

Mónica Delgado (monica@unizar.es)



EQUIPMENT FOR DETERMINATION OF THERMOPHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Property	Method	Accuracy	Sample mass	Temperature range	Organic / inorganic	Solid / liquid	Composite materials
Enthalpy	T-History	<10%	~10 g.	-10°C-50°C	Both	Both, solidification and melting	Yes
Phase change temperature range and determination of supercooling and hysteresis	T-History	0.2 K	~10 g.	-10°C-50°C	Both		Yes
Thermal diffusivity	Energy balance	<10%	15 cm x 12 cm	10°C-40°C	Both	Both, with encapsulation	Yes
Thermal power exchange with the air	Energy balance	5%	~1 kg, 38cm x 14 cm	10°C-40°C	Both	Both, with encapsulation	Yes
Specific heat	DSC	0.1K / <1%	~20mg.	-100°C-600°C	Both	Both	Only if sample mass is adequate
Thermal diffusivity	LFA	Sol. <0.37%	12.7 mm diameter, 2mm de thickness	Ambient-1100°C (diffusivities range de: 0.01-1000 mm ² /s)	Both	Both	Only if sample mass is adequate
		Liq. <1.6%					
Thermal conductivity	LFA-DSC	Sol. <1%		Ambient-600°C	Both	Both	Only if sample mass is adequate
		Liq. <1%					
Viscosity	Rheometer	Torque resolution 0.1 nN·m; Displacement resolution 2.5·10 ⁻⁸ rad	0.5 ml - 30 ml	-150-600°C	Both	Both	No
Density / Volumetric expansion	Densimeter/TMA	Densimeter: <1% TMA:<1nm	Densimeter: >1ml TMA: 20mm	-150°C-600°C	Booth	Densimeter: Liquid TMA: Both	Yes

References:

- Determination of enthalpy-temperature curves of phase change materials with the T-History method – improvement to temperature dependent properties. J. M. Marín, B. Zalba, L. Cabeza, H. Mehling, Measurement Science and Technology vol. 14, 2003, pp. 184-189
- Verification of a T-History installation to measure enthalpy versus temperature curves of phase change materials. Lazaro A, Gunther E, Mehling H, Hiebler S, Marin JM and Zalba B, Measurement Science & Technology 17 (8): 2168-2174 Aug 2006
- Improvement of thermal energy storage using plates with paraffin – graphite composite. J. M. Marín, B. Zalba, L. Cabeza, H. Mehling, Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer vol. 48, 2005, pp. 2561-2570
- An experimental study of thermal energy storage with phase change materials by design of experiments. B. Zalba, B. Sánchez-Valverde, J. M. Marín, App. Statistics vol. 32, No. 4, June 2005, pp. 1-12
- An approach to the simulation of PCMs in building applications using TRNSYS. Ibáñez, M.; Lazaro A.; Zalba B.; Cabeza, L.F., Applied Thermal Engineering 25 (2005), 1796-1807
- Intercomparative tests on Phase Change Materials characterization with Differential Scanning Calorimeter, Ana Lazaro, Conchita Peñalosa, Aran Solé, Gonzalo Diarce, Thomas Haussmann, Magali Fois, Belén Zalba, Stefan Gschwander, Luisa F. Cabeza, Applied Energy. Applied Energy 109 (2013) 416-420
- Determining the rheological behavior of octadecane as phase change material: First approach. M. Delgado, Gschwander S., A. Lázaro, Peñalosa C., B. Zalba, Thermochimica Acta. 548-20, pp. 81-87. 2012