

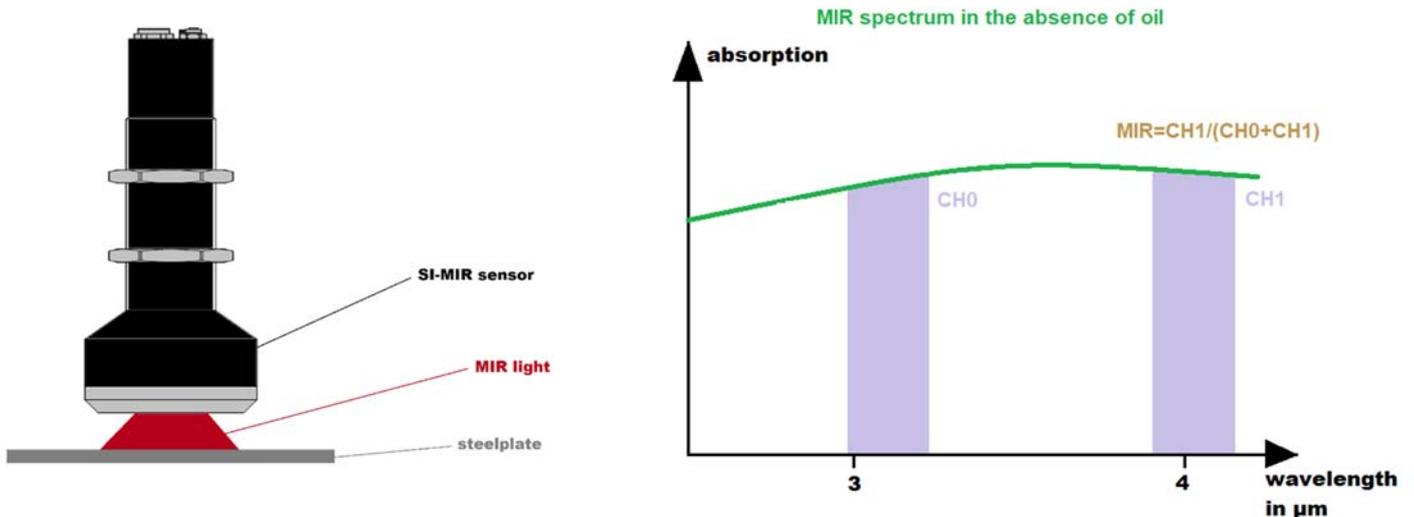
Press information from Sensor Instruments

December 2020

What is going on in the haze? We watch the oil even during evaporation!

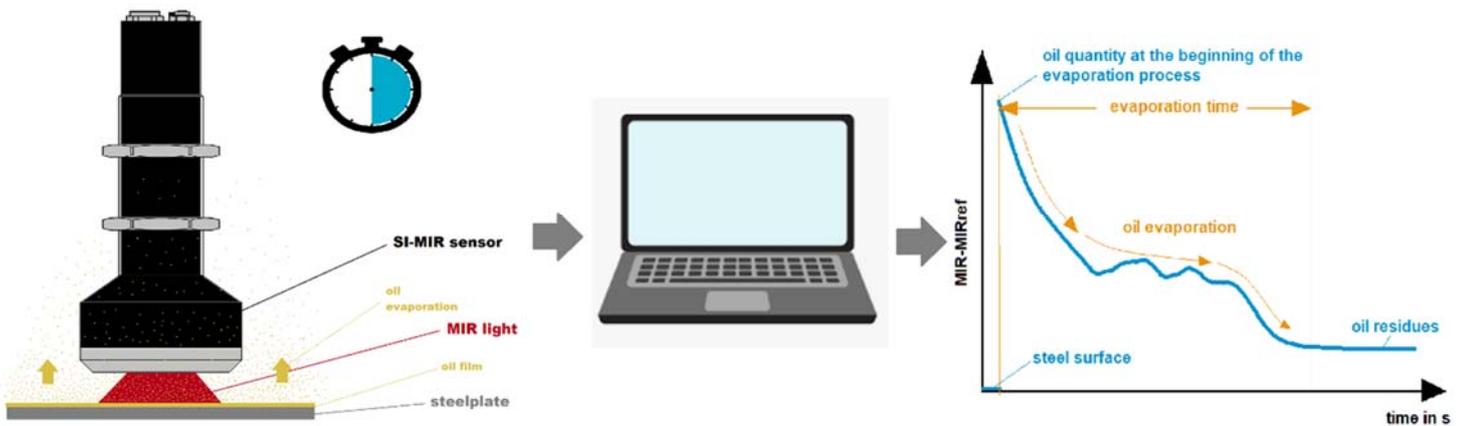
22/12/2020. Sensor Instruments GmbH: Producers of blanked and flexible parts are increasingly using evaporated punching and drawing oils. Such processes need an outcome which minimizes the oil residue on the punched or formed metal parts in order to obviate the need to subject the products to a cleaning process. The question is: how much of the oil remains on the component and how long does the evaporation process take?

Our SPECTRO-M series answers this question! To this end, we applied five drops of oil (5x20µl) to a degreased steel plate and spread it over a 70mm diameter surface. The oil layer thickness at the start of the measuring procedure amounted to some 25µm. The **SPECTRO-M-10-MIR/(MIR1+MIR2)** sensor was then placed on the center of the oil and the measurement started: The MIR sensor was used to view two measuring windows, both of which were located in the mid-wavelength infrared light range (MIR range). One of these two wavelength range windows reacts to the presence of oil (here referred to as CH0), whilst the second measuring window (CH1) gave no reaction. This change in the two measuring windows upon the presence of oil can be used to ascertain the amount of oil within the detection range:

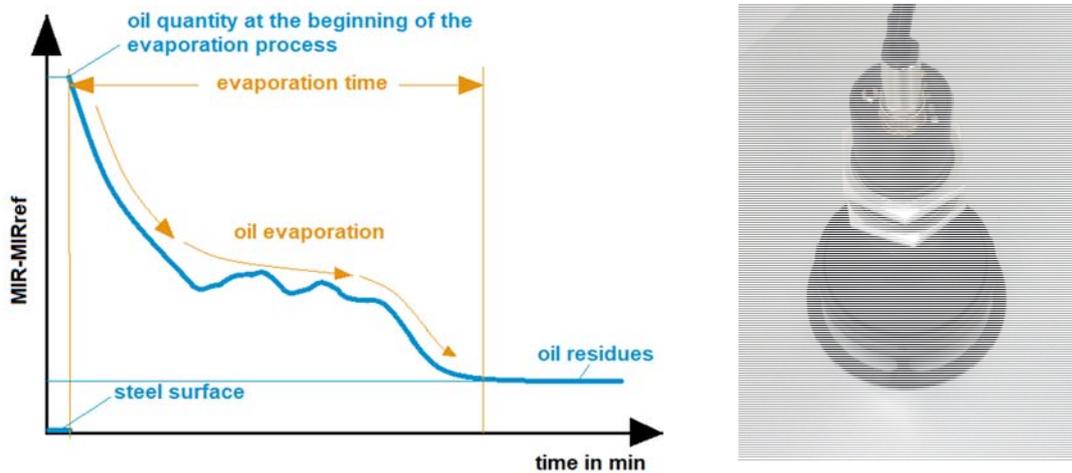


The MIRref spectrum of an oil-free (degreased) steel surface. Both wavelength ranges provide an almost identical signal.

The standardized MIR signal minus the standardized MIRref reference signal is recorded over a period of a number of hours using the Windows® MIR scope V1.0 software:



Testing of all the oil samples presented a similar progression as that presented in the following diagram:



The duration of evaporation lay between 60 - 90 minutes. The oil residue of the sample which evaporated the strongest lay at 1% of the original layer thickness and at 50% of the original layer thickness for the sample that evaporated the weakest.

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