

The background of the slide is a blue gradient. In the upper half, there are faint, light-colored chemical structures and a globe. The chemical structures include various rings, chains, and functional groups, some with labels like 'N', 'Cl', and 'H'. The globe is positioned behind the main title.

# Collaboration on Calibration

Richard Burrows

# Collaboration so far...

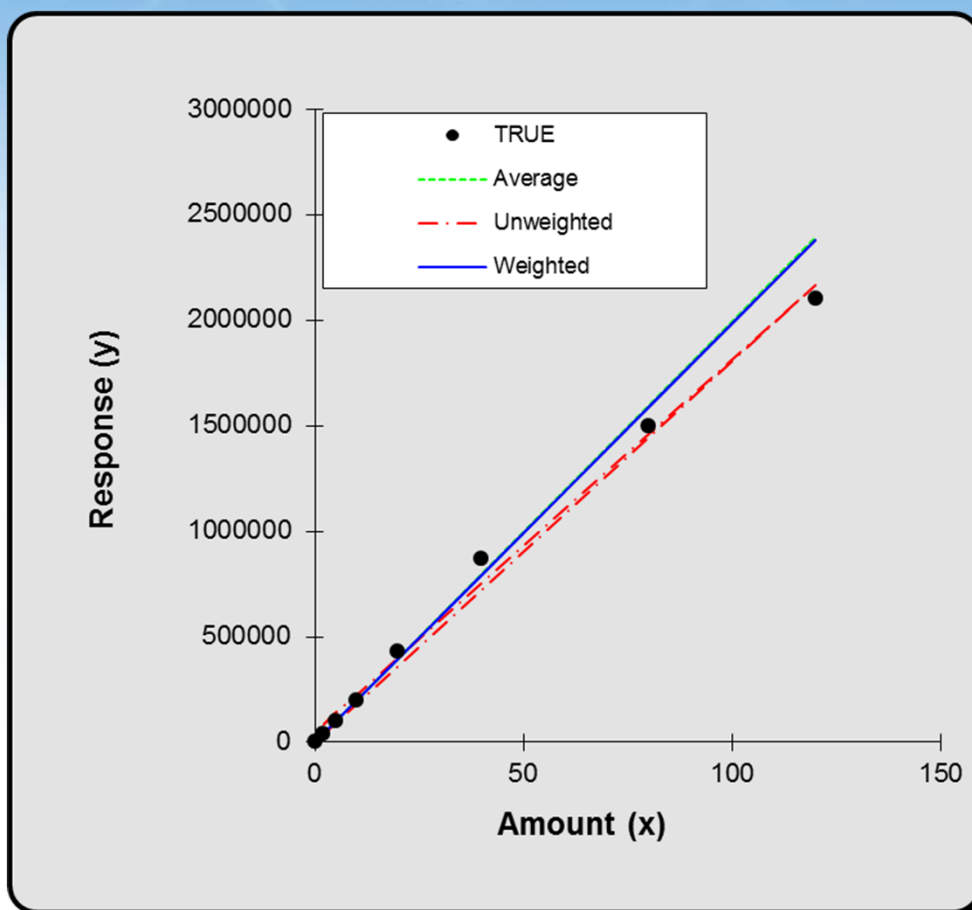
- RSE added to Method 8000 and 600 series
- RSE added to TNI standards
- Relative error added to 8000 series
- Relative Error added to TNI standards

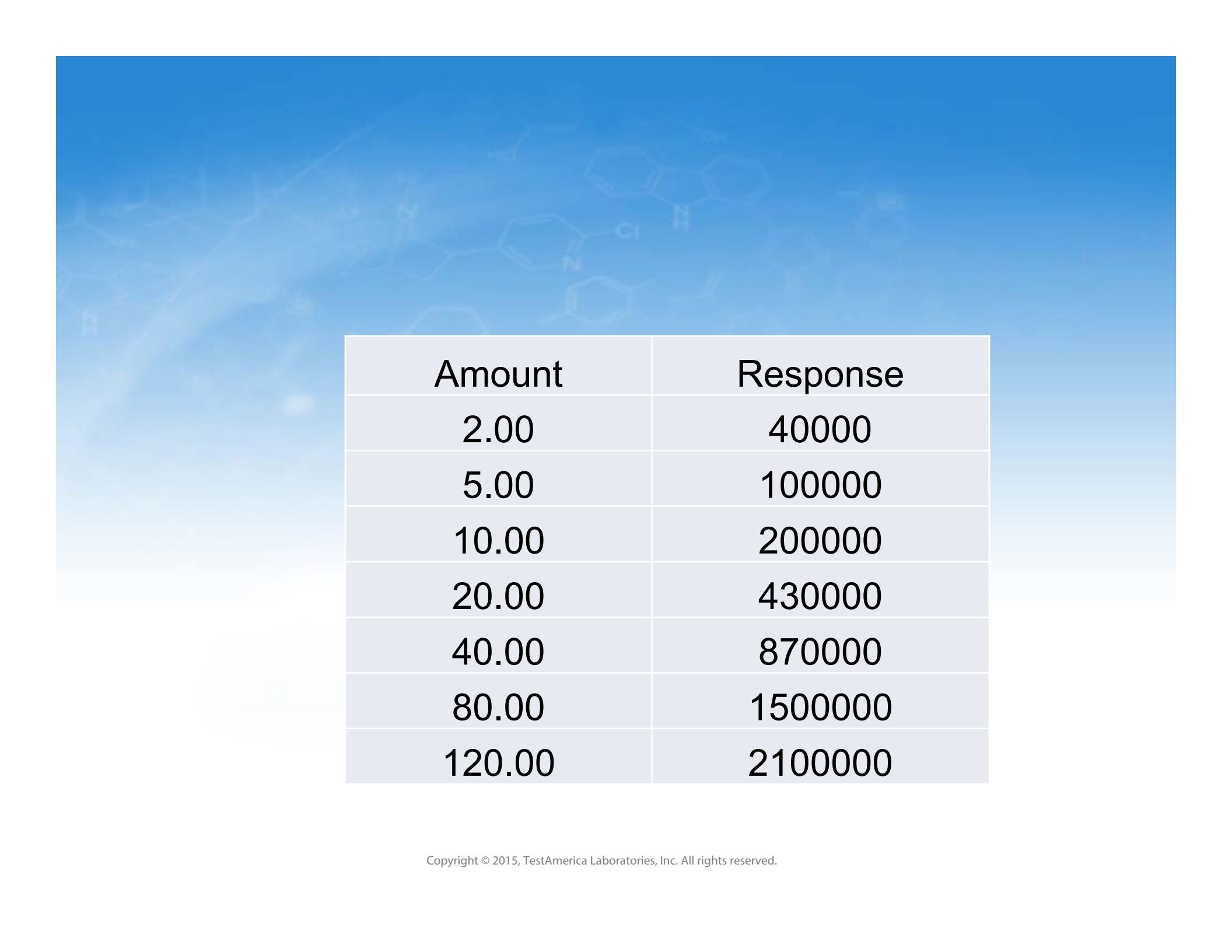


Are we done?

# Lets analyze a curve

Criteria:  $RSD = RSE \leq 20\%$      $r^2 \geq 0.990$





Amount	Response
2.00	40000
5.00	100000
10.00	200000
20.00	430000
40.00	870000
80.00	1500000
120.00	2100000

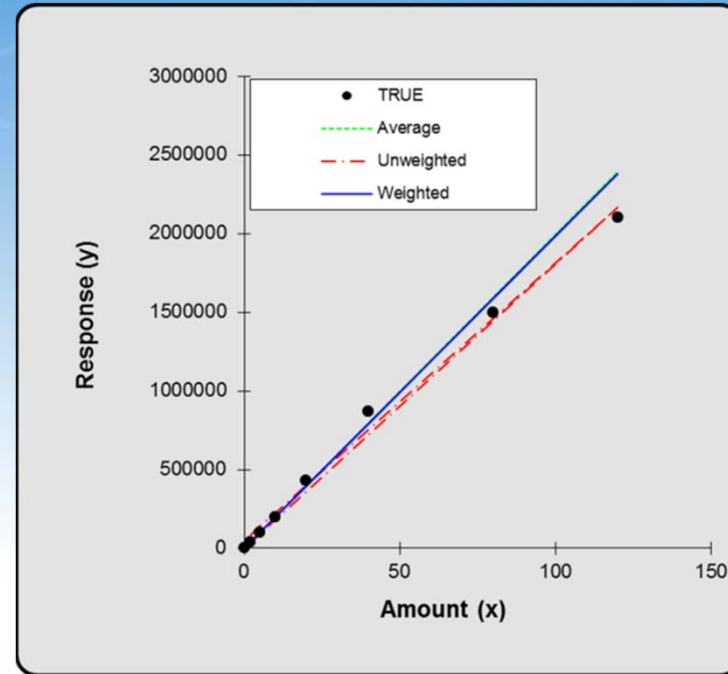
# Average

RSD = RSE = 7.4%

- PASS

$R^2 = 0.976$

- FAIL



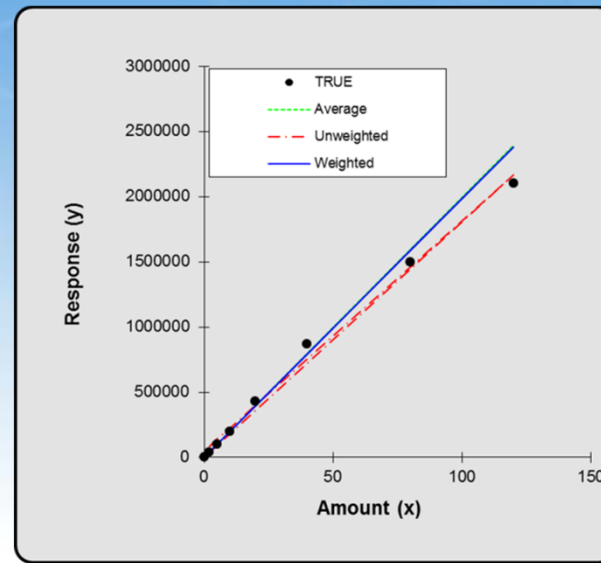
# Linear $1/X^2$ weighted

RSE = 8.1%

- **PASS**

$R^2 = 0.975$

- **FAIL**



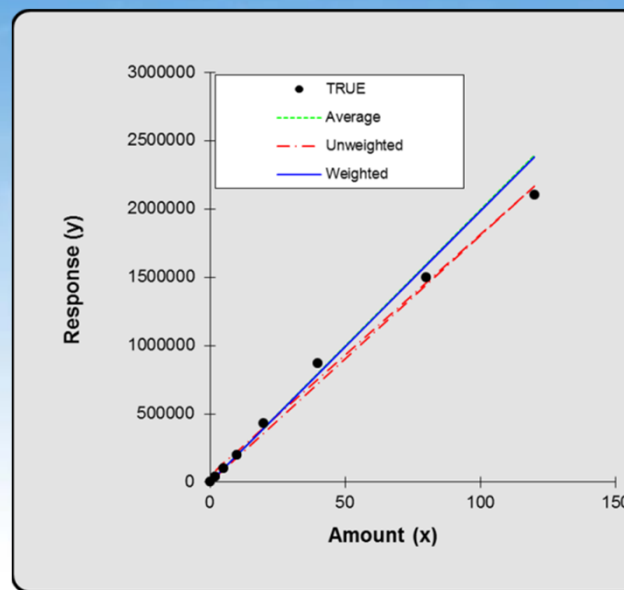
# Linear 1/X weighted

RSE = 12.8%

- **PASS**

$R^2 = 0.989$

- **FAIL**





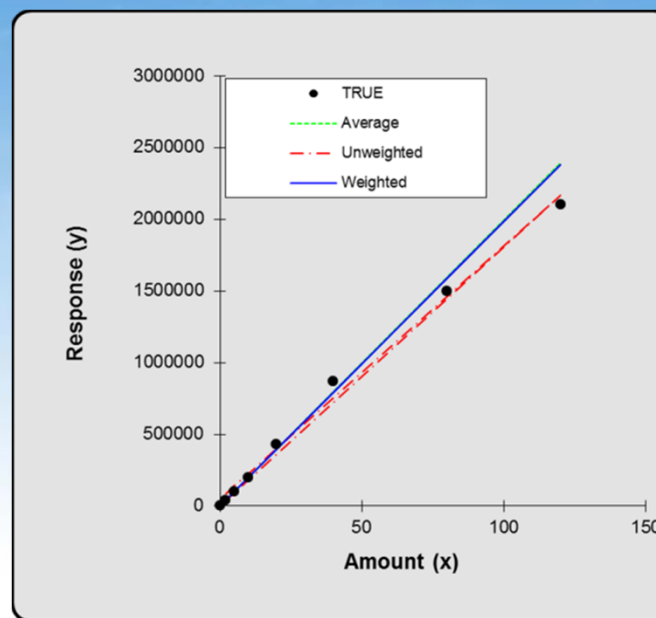
# Linear unweighted

RSE = 64.4%

- FAIL

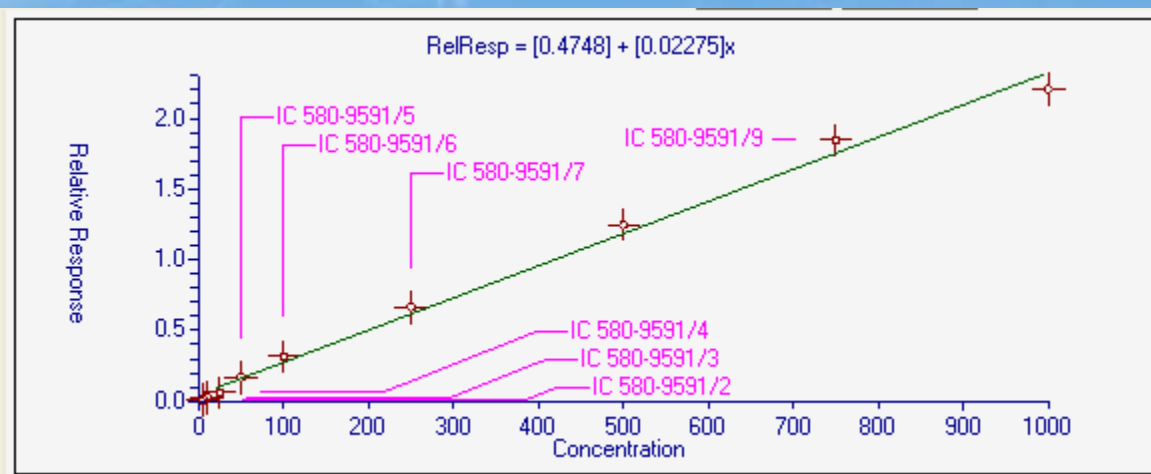
$R^2 = 0.994$

- PASS



	Average	1/X	1/X <sup>2</sup>	Unweighted
2	0.36%	17.96%	1.08%	<b>118.33%</b>
5	0.36%	3.19%	0.08%	<b>40.13%</b>
10	0.36%	1.73%	0.47%	14.06%
20	7.31%	12.01%	7.59%	6.02%
40	8.37%	13.04%	8.74%	13.09%
80	6.29%	0.22%	5.81%	2.66%
120	13.88%	7.14%	13.35%	3.05%
RSE	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>	<b>64.4%</b>
R2	<b>0.976</b>	<b>0.989</b>	<b>0.975</b>	<b>0.994</b>

# Calibration issues



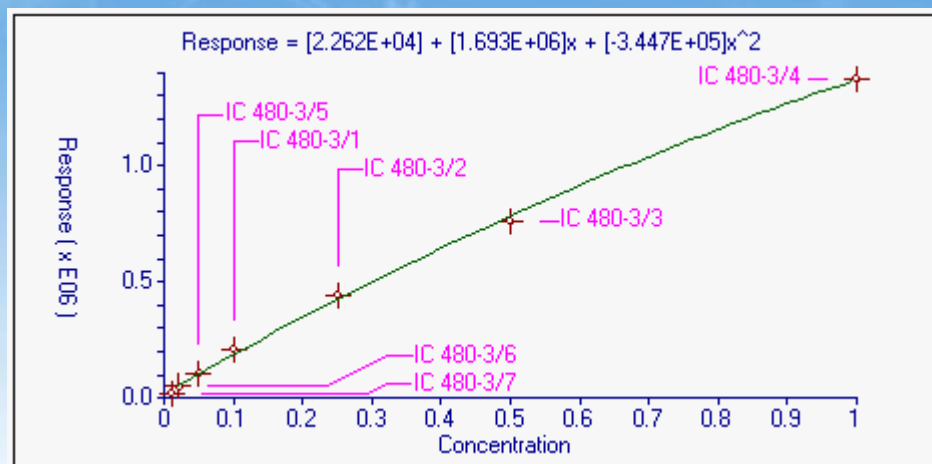
r = 0.997, r<sup>2</sup> = 0.994

**RSE = 179%**

Calibration Standard Levels							
Level	Used	Amount	Area	ISArea	%Error		
IC 580-9591/2	✓	5	1348	618332	421.63		
IC 580-9591/3	✓	10	3250	647316	198.43		
IC 580-9591/4	✓	25	7697	646400	78.87		
IC 580-9591/5	✓	50	23729	700099	7.13		
IC 580-9591/6	✓	100	47131	748204	17.47		
IC 580-9591/7	✓	250	111297	833662	8.93		
IC 580-9591/8	✓	500	229185	917698	5.52		
IC 580-9591/9	✓	750	371628	1005615	5.43		
IC 580-9591/10	✓	1000	499631	1131444	5.11		

421.63  
198.43

# Dalapon



$r^2 = 0.999$

RSE = 63%

Level	Used	Amoun	Area	%Error
IC 480-3/7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.01	22047	103.37
IC 480-3/6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.02	49262	21.07
IC 480-3/5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.05	106980	0.68
IC 480-3/1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.1	211249	14.05
IC 480-3/2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.25	442363	4.74
IC 480-3/3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.5	762496	3.04
IC 480-3/4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	1374873	0.38

%Error
103.37
21.07

“Very common mistakes in the analytical calibration process are the use of correlation and or determination coefficients...

*Evaluation of analytical calibration based on least squares linear regression for instrumental Techniques, Francisco Raposo, TrAC 77, Match 2016, Pages 167-185*

# Correlation coefficient

IUPAC, 1998  
Guidelines for Calibration in Analytical Chemistry

The correlation coefficient, which is a measure of two random variables, has no meaning in calibration because the values  $x$  are not random quantities

# IUPAC, 1998

## Guidelines for Calibration in Analytical Chemistry

The correlation coefficient, which is a measure of two random variables, **has no meaning** in calibration because the values  $x$  are not random quantities

Taylor, Statistical Techniques for Data Analysis, 1990

“The author has seen cases where a correlation coefficient of 0.997 was believed to be a better fit than 0.996 of a 5 point calibration curve. One can even find requirements in quality assurance plans to recalibrate if the correlation coefficient is less than 0.995!”



# Correlation Coefficient

For most applications, and calibration curves in particular, the correlation coefficient must be regarded as a relic of the past

- Meier and Zund, *Statistical Methods in Analytical Chemistry*, 2000

# Correlation Coefficient

“One practice that should be discouraged is the use of the correlation coefficient as a means of evaluating goodness of fit of linear models”

- Van Arendonk and Skogerboe, *Anal. Chem.* 53, 1981, 2349-2350

# RSE Status

- RSE adoption should be relatively straightforward because:
  - For the average RF calibration  $RSE = RSD$
  - RSE essentially just allows RSD to be applied to all types of curves, instead of just Average RF
- However:
- Virtually unused
  - May increase after 2016 standards are adopted
  - Needs to be incorporated into major manufacturer instrument software
  - Needs removal of correlation coefficient option??
  - Needs champions

# So what is important?

- Measuring relative error
- Do we already have measures of relative error in EPA methods?

$$\delta x = \frac{x_0 - x}{x}$$

relative error

measured value

actual value

$x$

wikiHow

wikiHow to Calculate Absolute Error

# Method 524.4

- Linear or quadratic regression may be used
- Calibration points  $\leq$  MRL must calculate within 50% of true value (Relative Error)
- Calibration points above the MRL must calculate within 30% of true value (Relative Error)
- **No correlation coefficient or coefficient of determination!**

# Relative error (Method 524)

Using relative error of each point is less desirable than RSE, but it is good:

- Measures what is important, relative error
- Consistent with TNI standards
- Consistent for different curve fits

# 8270E Relative Error

Average curve fit – RSD (Relative Error)

Linear or quadratic regression

- Has RSE option (Relative Error)
- Recalc at low point 50%, other points 30% (Should) (Relative Error)
- Consistent with method 524
- Unfortunately includes correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination

**Just drop them!!**

# 624.1 Relative Error

Average curve fit – RSD

Linear or quadratic regression

- Has RSE option (Relative Error)
- No recalc
- Unfortunately includes coefficient of determination

**Just drop COD and add Recalc!**



# What Next?

- Raise your hand if you think calibration is an important part of an analytical chemical method
- Keep it raised if you think that a good measure of whether a calibration is acceptable is important
- Keep it raised if you think a bad measure of calibration acceptability is a problem

Keep it raised if you will be part of the irresistible force of collaboration that gets rid of the correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination.

