

CASE STUDY BASED PUZZLE

BP701T: INSTRUMENTAL METHODS OF ANALYSIS

TOPIC: UV VISIBLE SPECTROPHOTOMETER

Puzzle 1: Solvent Selection for Poorly Soluble Drug

A new antifungal drug candidate with low aqueous solubility shows weak absorbance in water but strong signals in DMSO at 280 nm. The team must select a solvent for bioanalytical method validation without altering the drug's electronic structure.



- 1. Discuss solvent effects on absorption spectra and recommend a solvent with minimal hypsochromic shift.
- 2. Justify using Beer's-Lambert law for concentration determination in the chosen solvent.



Puzzle 2: Detector Sensitivity in Low-Concentration Assay

In a clinical lab assaying trace vitamin B12 in plasma, a silicon photodiode detector yields low signal-to-noise ratio below $0.1 \,\mu\text{g/mL}$ at 361 nm, delaying patient reports.

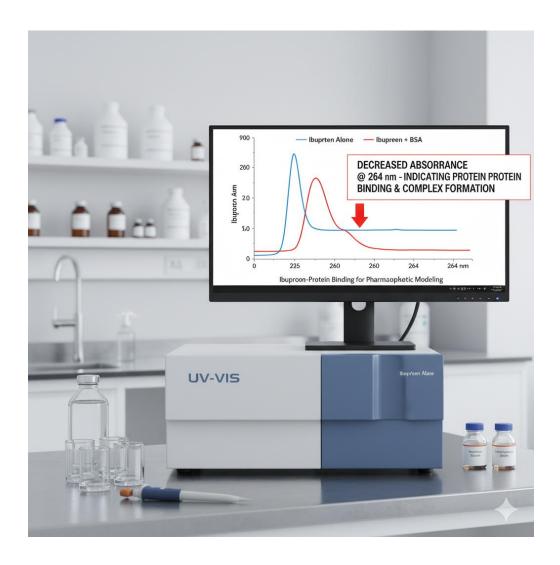


- 1. Compare the suitability of silicon photodiode vs. photomultiplier tube for this UV region and explain.
- 2. Suggest wavelength selector adjustments to improve sensitivity.



Puzzle 3: Hypochromic Effect in Protein Binding

Studying ibuprofen-protein binding for pharmacokinetic modeling, the analyst observes a decrease in absorbance at 264 nm upon adding bovine serum albumin, indicating complex formation.



- 1. Explain the hypochromic shift in terms of electronic transitions and chromophore interactions.
- 2. Use Beer's-Lambert law to quantify the binding constant from absorbance changes.



Puzzle 4: Titration Endpoint Detection

In a QC titration of iodine with sodium thiosulfate for antiseptic formulation, the endpoint at 520 nm is unclear due to turbidity from starch indicator.



- 1. Describe how UV-Vis monitors the spectrophotometric titration and identifies the endpoint.
- 2. Account for any deviations from Beer's-Lambert law in colored solutions.



Puzzle 5: Auxochrome Impact on Bathochromic Shift

Modifying a lead compound for better bioavailability, the R&D team adds a hydroxyl group (OH) to a benzene chromophore, shifting λ max from 260 nm to 270 nm in acidic medium.

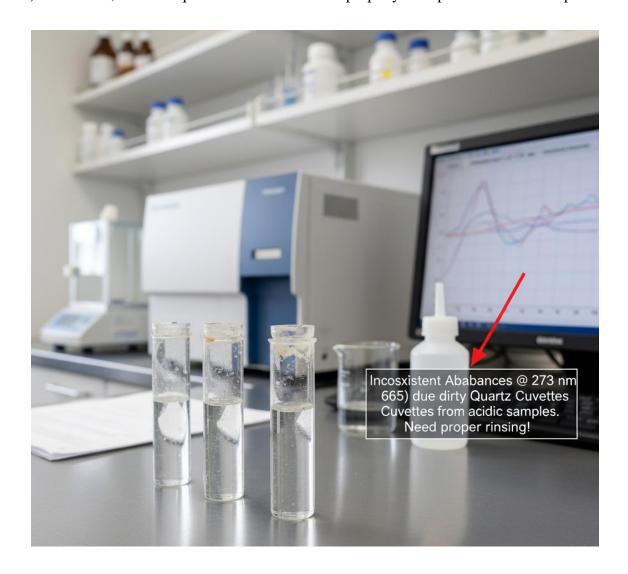


- 1. Classify the auxochrome effect and the resulting spectral shift type.
- 2. Predict the shift in basic medium and its impact on formulation stability testing.



Puzzle 6: Sample Cell Contamination Issue

Repeated UV-Vis scans of a caffeine standard at 273 nm show inconsistent absorbances (0.45 to 0.65) across runs, traced to quartz cuvettes not rinsed properly after previous acidic samples.



- 1. Explain how sample cell material and contamination affect UV measurements.
- 2. Outline cleaning and verification steps aligned with instrument qualification.