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(54) Title: METHOD FOR PREDICTING A PHYSICAL PROPERTY OF A RESIDUAL HYDROCARBONACEOUS MATERIAL

(57) Abstract

The present invention provides a method for predicting a physical property of a residual hydrocarbonaceous material comprising the steps of: a) selecting a set of residual hydrocarbonaceous materials of different quality; b) determining a physical property of the residual hydrocarbonaceous materials by conventional measurement; c) measusing the (near) infrared spectra of the residual hydrocarbonaceous materials; d) selecting in the spectral region a range of wavelengths, and using the absorbance values measured at these wavelengths as an input for multivariate statistical analysis or a neural network; d) correlating the absorbance values obtained with the physical property as determined under b) by means of multivariate statistical analysis or a neural network and generating a predictive model; and subsequently e) applying this predicitive model to (near) infrared spectra, taken under the same conditions, for residual hydrocarbonaceous materials of an unknown physical property, thus providing the physical property of the unknown residual hydrocarbonaceous material.