ABSTRACT

A method for determining the relative humidity in an interior space without using a special humidity sensor. Includes, passing a flow of air of known tempearture and humidity through the cooling coil (12) of a known air conditioning system for a pre-determined period of time. The temperature of the air existing from the cooling coil (12) after the pre-determined period of time is measured. A reference temperature differential is determined by subtracting the exiting temperature from the known temperature of the entering air. A flow of air for which it is desired to know the relative humidity is then passed through the cooling coil (12) for the same pre-determined period of time. The temperature of the air entering the cooling coil (12) and exiting from the cooling coil at the end of this pre-determined period of time is determined. The exit temperature is subtracted from the entering temperature to provide the temperature differential for the air of unknown relative humidity. The reference temperature differential is then compared to the calculated temperature differential. If the temperature differential is smaller than the reference temperature differential the air is then known to be more humid than the known relative humidity. If the temperature differential is the same, the relative humidity is the same, and, if the temperature differential is greater the air is less humid than the known relative humidity.

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