

Application Note

Humidity Modules

LinPicco™ and DigiPicco™



Application Note

Humidity Modules

Content

1	LinPicco™	3
1.1	About the Sensor	3
1.2	Benefits and Characteristics	3
1.3	Application Areas	3
1.4	Measurement Principle	3
1.5	Dimensions and Housing	4
1.6	Mounting	4
1.7	Delivery and Content	5
1.8	Handling	5
1.9	Storage	5
1.10	Performance	5
1.11	Influences	6
1.12	Electronics and Circuit Diagram	6
2	DigiPicco (discontinued)™	7
2.1	About the Sensor	7
2.2	Benefits and Characteristics	7
2.3	Application Areas	7
2.4	Measurement Principle	7
2.5	Dimensions and Housing	8
2.6	Mounting	9
2.7	Delivery and Content	9
2.8	Handling	9
2.9	Storage	9
2.10	Performance	10
2.11	Influences	10
2.12	Electronics and Circuit Diagram	11
3	Additional documents	12



Application Note

Humidity Modules

LinPicco™ and DigiPicco™

1 LinPicco™

1.1 About the Sensor

The LinPicco™ series provides a Plug&Play module for humidity and temperature measurements. The module is fully calibrated, has an analog output signal and is temperature compensated. Additionally, no extra software is needed.

The principle of the module is a capacitive change which is transformed in to an electrical signal. The signal is being processed by an integrated component and afterwards put out as an analog output.

The analog LinPicco™ module is suitable for applications where a fast, simple and easy to integrate humidity and temperature measurement is needed.

1.2 Benefits and Characteristics

The following list showcases the advantages the LinPicco™ has. It is not a list of the modules full range of capabilities and should not be seen as such.

- Precise humidity measurement
- Fully calibrated
- Easy to integrate
- Various analog output signals
- Very low drift due to wide sensor variation
- Module with external sensor available
- PCB moisture protected
- Customer specific module available upon request

1.3 Application Areas

Among other, the LinPicco™ humidity module is suitable for, but not limited to, the following application areas:

- HVAC
- Monitoring
- Home appliances and white goods
- Process and automation

1.4 Measurement Principle

The LinPicco™ module contains the Innovative Sensor Technology IST AG P14 capacitive humidity sensor. The P14 capacitive RH sensor on the LinPicco™ consists of a ceramic substrate on which a thin film of polymer is deposited between two conductive electrodes.

The sensing surface is coated with a microporous metal electrode, allowing the polymer to absorb moisture while protecting it from contamination and exposure to condensation. As the polymer absorbs water, the dielectric constant changes incrementally and is nearly directly proportional to the relative humidity of the surrounding environment. Thus, by monitoring the change in capacitance, relative humidity can be derived.

The LinPicco™ humidity module is available with three output signals, A420 (4mA to 20 mA), A01 (0V to 1 V) and A05 (0 V to 5V).



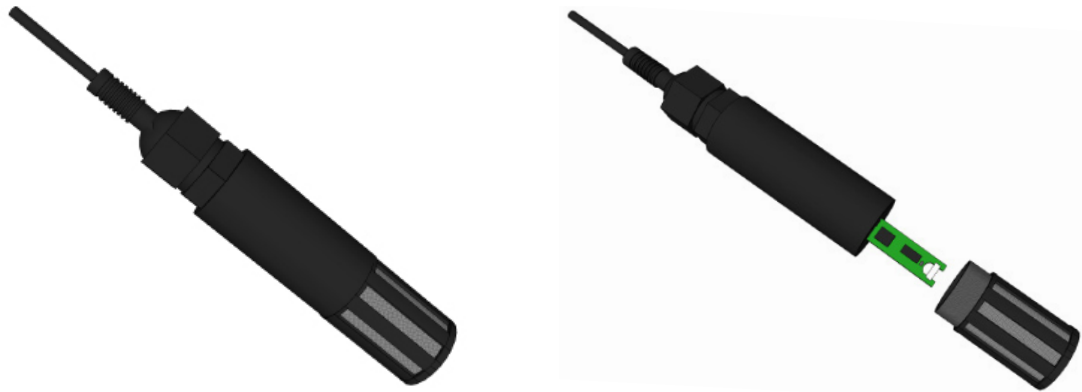
1.5 Dimensions and Housing

The dimensions of the standard modules are 47 x 10 x 1 / 2.8 (L x W x H / H2 in mm). This does not include housing or connecting wires. The corresponding housings serve as inspiration, only. If you have any questions regarding specific housing possibilities, please contact us to find the best possible solution for your application.



LinPicco™ in probe

The LinPicco™ can be supplied implemented into a probe. The probe measures 88 mm (L) x 18 mm (Ø).



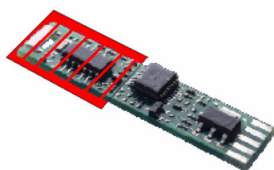
Connector

It is recommended to use a HARWIN - M22-2020505 - HEADER, VERTICAL, 2ROW, 10WAY connector and a HARWIN - M22-7140542 - SOCKET, VERTICAL, 2ROW, 5WAY as counter piece.

1.6 Mounting

The following mounting possibilities serve as inspiration, only. If you have any questions regarding specific mounting possibilities, please contact us to find the best possible solution for your application.

The red marked zone may not be extrusion-coated or stuck together with a material. The remaining part may be extrusion-coated or stuck together for the assembly, however the material may not be electrically conductive.



The humidity module may not be exposed to any mechanical stress.



1.7 Delivery and Content

Upon delivery, the shipment contains a module with a sensor.



1.8 Handling

- The active surface of the sensor must not be touched and contamination of the active surface of the sensor must be avoided
- The module must not be cleaned with chemicals regardless of type
- The sensor must not be exposed to any mechanical stress, as bending or touching with sharp objects
- The humidity module must not be laid on conductive surfaces (short-circuit risk)
- The maximum temperature of + 100 °C must not be exceeded
- The humidity module must not be touched, when it is in use



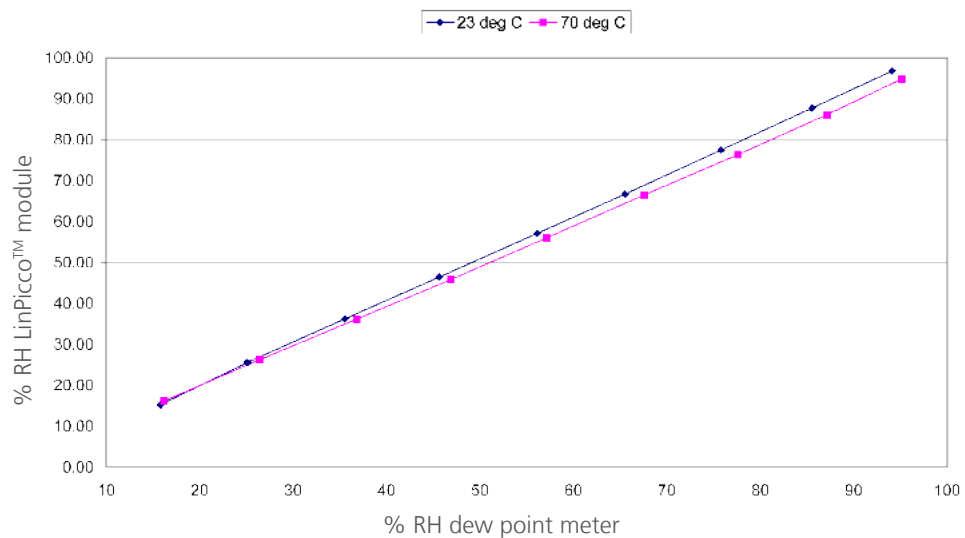
1.9 Storage

The module must be stored between -40 °C to +80 °C at maximum 95 % RH - none condensing.

1.10 Performance

The following graph illustrates the performance of the LinPicco™. Depending on the application and possible occurring influences, this measurement might vary.

LinPicco™ module - Characteristic curve at + 23 °C and + 70 °C





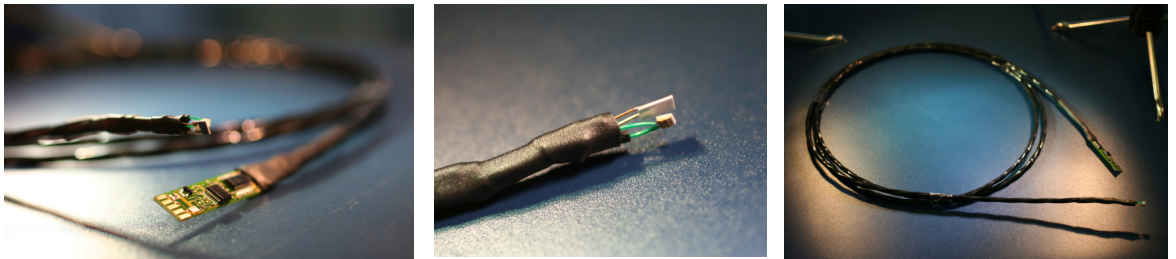
1.11 Influences

The following list illustrates possible influences, however is strongly dependent upon the application. If you have any questions regarding specific applications and its possible influences, please contact us to find the best possible solution for your situation.

Microclimate

Due to high humidity surrounding the module, the risk of creating a microclimate can appear. The microclimate will appear inside the PCB material and can cause misreading.

To avoid microclimate development, Innovative Sensor Technology IST AG recommends implementing a LinPicco™ module with external sensor. For more information about the module with external sensor, please contact us.



1.12 Electronics and Circuit Diagram

Pin Assignment

	A420				A01/A05	
	W5 ¹⁾	W6 ¹⁾	W7	W8	W9	W10
A420	Pt1000 / Pt 100	Pt1000 / Pt 100	Current loop return			Current loop V _{CC+}
A01	Pt1000 / Pt 100	Pt1000 / Pt 100		GND	Analog output	V _{CC+}
A05	Pt1000 / Pt 100	Pt1000 / Pt 100		GND	Analog output	V _{CC+}

1) Does not apply for module with cable and external sensor



2 DigiPicco™

2.1 About the Sensor

The DigiPicco™ series provides a Plug&Play module for humidity and temperature measurements. The module is fully calibrated, has a digital output signal and is temperature compensated. Additional software is needed.

The principle of the module is a capacitive change which is transformed in to an electrical signal. The signal is being processed by an integrated component and afterwards put out as a digital output.

The digital DigiPicco™ module is suitable for applications where a fast, simple and easy to integrate humidity and temperature measurement is needed.

2.2 Benefits and Characteristics

The following list showcases the advantages the DigiPicco™ has. It is not a list of the modules full range of capabilities and should not be seen as such.

- Precise humidity and temperature measurement
- Fully calibrated
- Very low drift due to wide sensor variation
- Excellent response time
- Integrated Pt1000 temperature sensor and P14 humidity sensor
- Module with external sensor available
- Calibrated humidity and temperature signals on one bus
- PCB moisture protected
- Customer specific module available upon request

2.3 Application Areas

Among other, the DigiPicco™ humidity module is suitable for, but not limited to, the following application areas:

- HVAC
- Monitoring
- Home appliances and white goods
- Process and automation

2.4 Measurement Principle

The DigiPicco™ module contains the Innovative Sensor Technology IST AG P14 capacitive humidity sensor. The measuring P14 capacitive RH sensor on the DigiPicco™ consists of a ceramic substrate on which a thin film of polymer is deposited between two conductive electrodes.

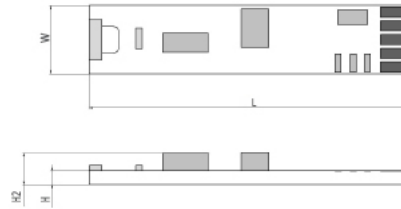
The sensing surface is coated with a microporous metal electrode, allowing the polymer to absorb moisture while protecting it from contamination and exposure to condensation. As the polymer absorbs water, the dielectric constant changes incrementally and is nearly directly proportional to the relative humidity of the surrounding environment. Thus, by monitoring the change in capacitance, relative humidity can be derived.

The DigiPicco™ humidity module is available with I²C digital output signal.



2.5 Dimensions and Housing

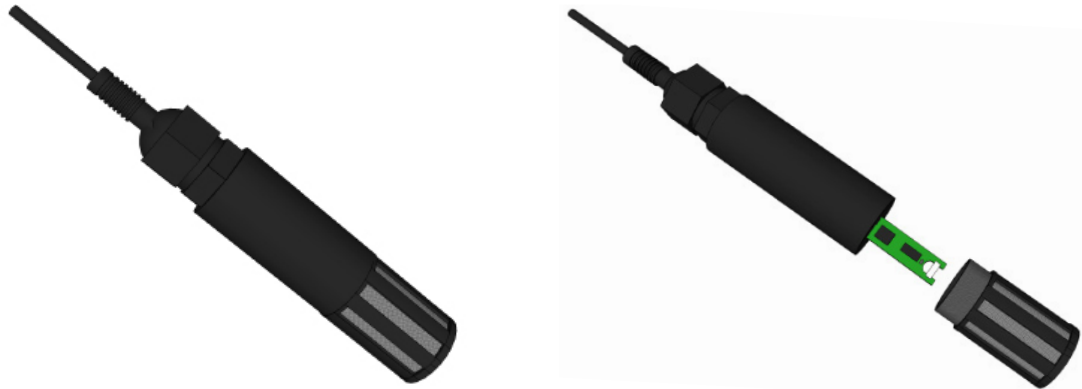
The dimensions of the standard modules are 47 x 10 x 1 / 2.8 (L x W x H / H2 in mm). This does not include housing or connecting wires. The corresponding housings serve as inspiration, only. If you have any questions regarding specific housing possibilities, please contact us to find the best possible solution for your application.



The DigiPicco™ module measures 47 mm (L) x 10 mm (W) x 1 (H) / 2.8 mm (H2)

DigiPicco™ in probe

The DigiPicco™ can be supplied implemented into a probe. The probe measures 88 mm (L) x 18 mm (Ø).



Connector

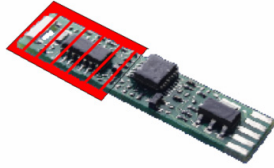
It is recommended to use a HARWIN - M22-2020505 - HEADER, VERTICAL, 2ROW, 10WAY connector and a HARWIN - M22-7140542 - SOCKET, VERTICAL, 2ROW, 5WAY as counter piece.



2.6 Mounting

The following mounting possibilities serve as inspiration, only. If you have any questions regarding specific mounting possibilities, please contact us to find the best possible solution for your application.

The red marked zone may not be extrusion-coated or stuck together with a material. The remaining part may be extrusion-coated or stuck together for the assembly, however the material may not be electrically conductive.



The humidity module may not be exposed to any mechanical stress.

2.7 Delivery and Content

Upon delivery, the shipment contains a module with a sensor.

2.8 Handling

- The active surface of the sensor must not be touched and contamination of the active surface of the sensor must be avoided
- The module must not be cleaned with chemicals regardless of type
- The sensor must not be exposed to any mechanical stress, as bending or touching with sharp objects
- The humidity module must not be laid on conductive surfaces (short-circuit risk)
- The maximum temperature of + 100 °C must not be exceeded
- The humidity module must not be touched, when it is in use

2.9 Storage

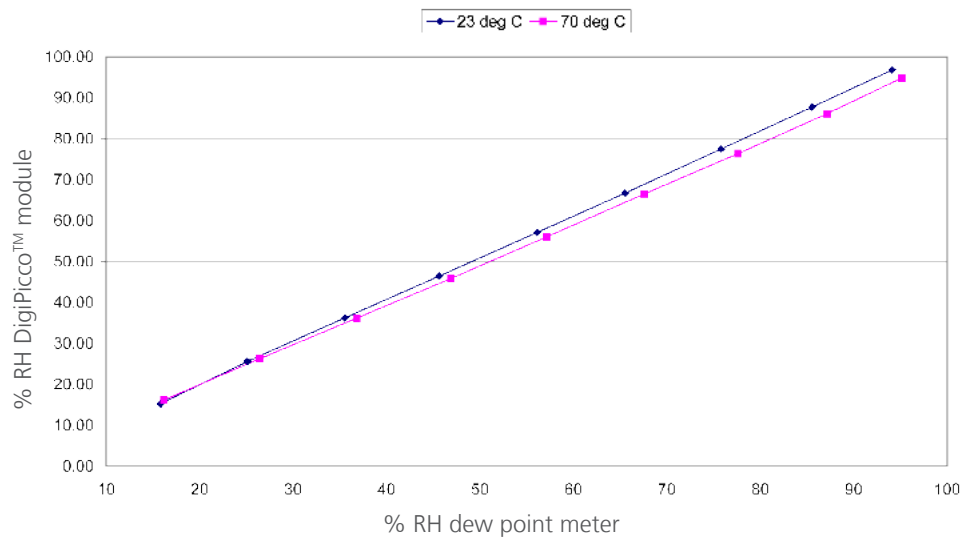
The module must be stored between -40 °C to +80 °C at maximum 95 % RH - none condensing.



2.10 Performance

The following graph illustrates the performance of the DigiPicco™. Depending on the application and possible occurring influences, this measurement might vary.

DigiPicco™ module - Characteristic curve at + 23 °C and + 70 °C

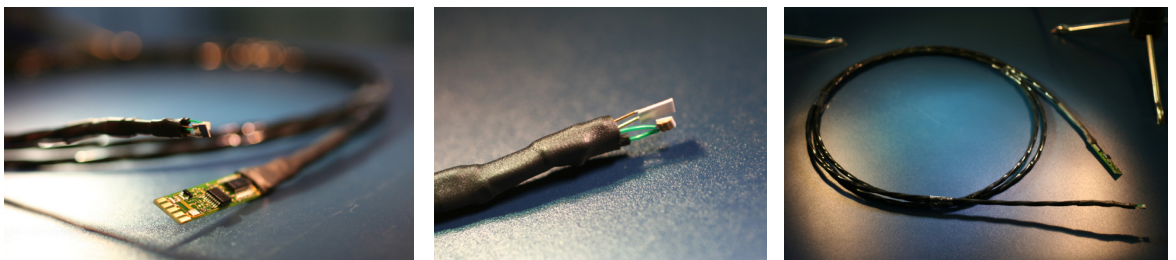


2.11 Influences

The following list illustrates possible influences, however is strongly dependent upon the application. If you have any questions regarding specific applications and its possible influences, please contact us to find the best possible solution for your situation.

Due to high humidity surrounding the module, the risk of creating a microclimate can appear. The microclimate will appear inside the PCB material and can cause misreading.

To avoid microclimate development Innovative Sensor Technology IST AG recommends implementing a DigiPicco™ module with external sensor. For more information about the module with external sensor, please contact us.





2.12 Electronics and Circuit Diagram

Pin Assignment

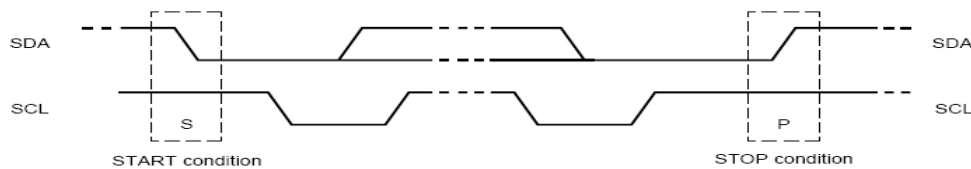


W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10
		Clock SCL (I ² C)	Data SDA (I ² C)				GND		V _{CC} +

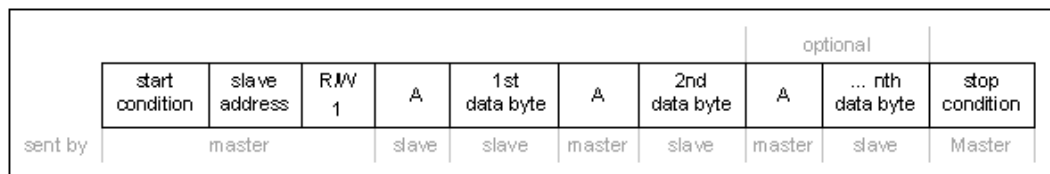
The external microcontroller (master) sends the start condition to the slave (DigiPicco™). The master transmits the standard 7 Bit address (0x78) or a factory customizable address. The eight bit (LSB) determines the direction of data flow and has to be set during this operation. Following, the slave (DigiPicco™) acknowledges the receipt of data with the acknowledge condition (SDA kept low during a positive clock cycle). After that, the slave (DigiPicco™) outputs the data values. After each data byte the master has to acknowledge the receipt of the data values by the acknowledge condition, except before the stop condition has been sent by the master itself. The humidity and the temperature values have two bytes each. The first two bytes are the humidity values and the second two bytes are the temperature values, 15 bit each. This sequence is repeated indefinitely until the stop condition has been sent (also refer to diagram below).

Start Condition:
SDA changes from high to low during SCL is in high condition.

Stop Condition:
SDA changes from low to high during SCL is in high condition.



Start and stop conditions

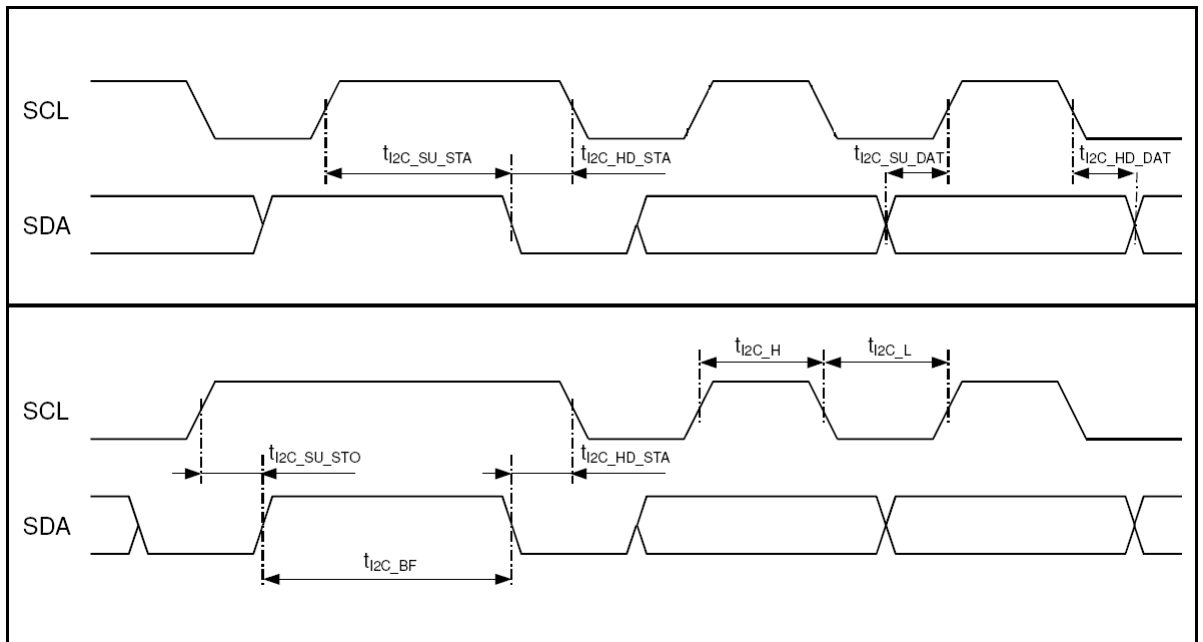


Typical read operation timing sequence

Slave-address:	0x78 or factory definable customer specific address
SCL clock-frequency:	Max. 400 kHz
Bus free time between start- and stop condition tI2C_BF:	Min. 1.3 μs
Hold delay start condition tI2C_HD_STA:	Min. 0.6 μs
Setup time start condition tI2C_SU_STA:	Min. 0.6 μs
Setup time stop condition tI2C_SU_STO:	Min. 0.6 μs
Data hold time (trigger=data) tI2C_HD_DAT:	0 μs



Data setup time $t_{I2C_SU_DAT}$:	Min. 0.1 μ s
Low period SDA/SCL t_{I2C_L} :	Min. 1.3 μ s
High period SDA/SCL t_{I2C_H} :	Min. 0.6 μ s
Input-high-level:	2.4 V to 3 V
Input-low-level:	0.0 V to 0.6 V
External pull- up resistor:	Min. 2 k Ω
Load capacitance:	Max. 2 nF



General timing diagram

3. Additional documents

	Document name:	
Data Sheets:	DHDigiPicco_E	DHDigiPicco_D
	DHLinPicco_E	DHLinPicco_D



Innovative Sensor Technology IST AG, Stegrütistrasse 14, 9642 Ebnat-Kappel, Switzerland
Phone: +41 71 992 01 00 | Fax: +41 71 992 01 99 | Email: info@ist-ag.com | www.ist-ag.com