9.2.4.3 Noise and Drift

Noise (*N*) (See Fig. 9.2.4)

The amplitude expressed in volts, amperes, or absorbance units of the envelope of the baseline which includes all random variations of the detector signal the frequency of which is in the order of one or more cycles per minute. In the case of photometric detectors the amplitude may be expressed in absorbance units per unit cell length.

Drift (see Fig. 9.2.4)

The average slope of the noise envelope, expressed in volts, amperes, or absorbance units per hour. It may be actually measured for 0.5 hour and extrapolated to one hour.

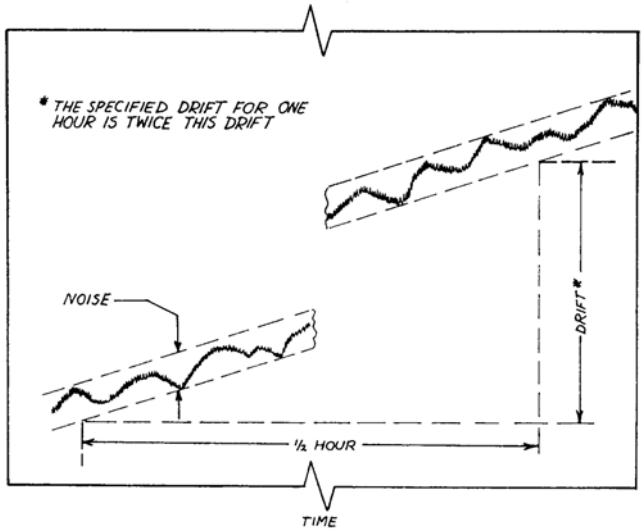

Figure 9.2.4. Measurement of the noise and drift of a chromatographic detector.