Irish Standard
I.S. EN ISO 6974-5:2014

Natural gas - Determination of composition and associated uncertainty by gas chromatography - Part 5: Isothermal method for nitrogen, carbon dioxide, C1 to C5 hydrocarbons and C6+ hydrocarbons (ISO 6974-5:2014)

I.S. EN ISO 6974-5:2014

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

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English Version

Natural gas - Determination of composition and associated uncertainty by gas chromatography - Part 5: Isothermal method for nitrogen, carbon dioxide, C1 to C5 hydrocarbons and C6+ hydrocarbons (ISO 6974-5:2014)

Gaz naturel - Détermination de la composition et de l'incertitude associée par chromatographie en phase gazeuse - Partie 5: Méthode isotherme pour l'azote, le dioxyde de carbone, les hydrocarbures C1 à C5 et C6+ (ISO 6974-5:2014)

Erdgas - Bestimmung der Zusammensetzung und der zugehörigen Unsicherheit durch Gaschromatographie - Teil 5: Isothermes Verfahren für Stickstoff, Kohlenstoffdioxid, C1- bis C5-Kohlenwasserstoffe und C6+-Kohlenwasserstoffe (ISO 6974-5:2014)

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Foreword

This document (EN ISO 6974-5:2014) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 193 "Natural gas".

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by January 2015, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by January 2015.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

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Endorsement notice

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I.S. EN ISO 6974-5:2014

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 6974-5

Second edition
2014-07-15

Natural gas — Determination of composition and associated uncertainty by gas chromatography —

Part 5: Isothermal method for nitrogen, carbon dioxide, C_1 to C_5 hydrocarbons and C_{6+} hydrocarbons

Gaz naturel — Détermination de la composition et de l'incertitude associée par chromatographie en phase gazeuse —

Partie 5: Méthode isotherme pour l'azote, le dioxyde de carbone, les hydrocarbures C_1 à C_5 et C_{6+}

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 www.iso.org/directives.

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Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 193, *Natural Gas*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Analysis of Natural Gas*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 6974-5:2000).

ISO 6974 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Natural gas — Determination of composition and associated uncertainty by gas chromatography*:

— *Part 1: General guidelines and calculation of composition*

— *Part 2: Uncertainty calculations*

— *Part 3: Determination of hydrogen, helium, oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons up to C8 using two capillary columns and one packed column*

— *Part 4: Determination of nitrogen, carbon dioxide and C_1 to C_5 and C_6+ hydrocarbons for a laboratory and on-line measuring system using two columns*

— *Part 5: Isothermal method for nitrogen, carbon dioxide, C_1 to C_5 hydrocarbons and C_6+ hydrocarbons*

— *Part 6: Determination of helium, oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and C_1 to C_8 hydrocarbons using three capillary columns*

Introduction

This part of ISO 6974 describes a method for the analysis of natural gas that is commonly used for online process applications, but can be applied to laboratory instruments. The compositional data obtained are used for the calculation of calorific value, density and Wobbe index.

It is assumed that the natural gas does not contain any oxygen at source and that any oxygen which may be present is due to contamination during sampling.

The primary use of this chromatographic method is the calculation of calorific value (CV) according to ISO 6976. It is based on a column switching technique in which multiple columns, chosen for their separating ability for particular groups of components, are switched under automatic control.

Only one injection is necessary and the first phase of the method involves accelerated backflush of C_6+ (which is measured as a recombined "pseudo component" rather than by the summation of individual component measurements). Lighter components (nitrogen, methane, carbon dioxide and ethane) are stored on the appropriate separating column while the heavier, C_3 to C_5 hydrocarbons are eluted. The lighter components are then separated by redirecting carrier gas on to the appropriate column.

A Thermal Conductivity Detector (TCD) is used for measurement of the above components.

When the method is first set up, the repeatability of measurement is established by repetitive analysis of a cylinder of test gas, commonly a typical natural gas. For each component, a control chart showing the mean value, and the bounds representing 2 and 3 standard deviations, is drawn up. Subsequently, this test gas is analysed after each calibration of the analyser, and the results are compared with the data in the control charts. The performance of the analyser is assessed by this procedure.

Any change in the method setup can give rise to differences in component responses and hence (where applied) to calculated uncertainties. In these circumstances fitting data to an existing control chart is not a suitable procedure, and the operations that were undertaken when the method was first set up shall be repeated.

This part of ISO 6974 provides one of the methods that may be used for determining the compositions of natural gas in accordance with ISO 6974-1 and ISO 6974-2.

Natural gas — Determination of composition and associated uncertainty by gas chromatography —

Part 5: Isothermal method for nitrogen, carbon dioxide, C_1 to C_5 hydrocarbons and C_{6+} hydrocarbons

1 Scope

This part of this International Standard describes a gas chromatographic method for the quantitative determination of the content of nitrogen, carbon dioxide and C_1 to C_5 hydrocarbons individually and a composite C_6+ measurement, which represents all hydrocarbons of carbon number 6 and above in natural gas samples. It is applicable to the analysis of gases containing constituents within the working ranges given in Table 1.

Table 1 — Component working ranges

Component		Mole fraction %	
		Min.	Max.
Nitrogen	N_2	0,1	22
Carbon dioxide	CO_2	0,05	15
Methane	CH_4	34	100
Ethane	C_2H_6	0,1	23
Propane	C_3H_8	0,05	10
iso-Butane	i-C_4H_{10}	0,01	2,0
n-Butane	n-C_4H_{10}	0,01	2,0
neo-Pentane	neo-C_5H_{12}	0,005	0,35
iso-Pentane	i-C_5H_{12}	0,005	0,35
n-Pentane	n-C_5H_{12}	0,005	0,35
Hexanes +	C_6+	0,005	0,35

NOTE 1 The working ranges in Table 1 are those for which the method has been shown to be satisfactory, and are offered for guidance. However, there is no reason why wider ranges should not be used, provided that the successful measurement of such wider ranges has been demonstrated.

NOTE 2 Hydrocarbons above n-pentane are expressed as the "pseudo-component" C_6+ which is measured as one composite peak and calibrated as such. The properties of C_6+ are calculated from an extended analysis of the individual C_6 and higher hydrocarbons.

NOTE 3 Oxygen is not a normal constituent of natural gas and would not be expected to be present in gas sampled to an online instrument. If any oxygen is present as a result of air contamination, it will be measured with the nitrogen. The resulting measured (nitrogen + oxygen) value will be in error to a small extent because of the slight difference between the detector responses of oxygen and nitrogen.

NOTE 4 The helium and argon contents are assumed to be sufficiently small and unvarying that they need not be analysed for.

NOTE 5 The gas sample shall not contain any hydrocarbon condensate and/or water.