



# **Natural Gas Analyser**

- ASTM D1945, D1946, ISO 6974, 6975, 6976, GPA 2261, 2177, 2186, 2286
- Calorific value / Wobbe index (ISO 6976)
- Robust and flexible design

AN 202WA0120H

GAS offers custom configured GC analysers for many application fields for over 45 years. GAS analysers are designed to meet many standardised methods from GPA, ASTM, UOP, ISO, EN and others. The efficient configurations are based on proven GC technology, resulting in robust instruments with an optimal return on investment.

Accurate natural gas analysis is important for many companies, from large gas suppliers to small end users, because large volumes of natural gas are involved, and therefore small differences in BTU value have major effects on profits and costs.



Figure 1. NGA-2A Extended

#### NGA configurations

GAS offers various Natural Gas Analysers, from single valve / single detector instruments to comprehensive multi-channel analysers. The configuration depends on requirements like standardised methods and components to be analysed.

#### NGA-2A Extended

Configuration 'NGA-2A Extended' is often used and covers many NGA requirements. The 2-channel instrument has 3 valves, packed and capillary columns, TCD and FID detection. See figure 1 and 2. The TCD channel analyses  $CO_2$ ,  $C_2$  and  $H_2S$  on Hayesep column and  $H_2$ ,  $O_2$ ,  $N_2$ ,  $CH_4$  and CO on Molsieve column, see figure 4. On the FID channel hydrocarbons from  $C_1$  up  $C_8$  and higher (i.e.  $C_{20}$ ) are measured, including baseline separation of neo-pentane, see figure 5. Robust diaphragm valves with extended lifetime are mounted in an independently heated valve oven. Micropacked columns (for TCD channel) are located in this valve oven as well, while a capillary column (on FID channel) is placed in the GC oven with temperature programming, allowing optimal settings for both channels. The analyser is based on Thermo GC1300 with modular injectors and detectors, providing high flexibility and high uptime (figure 3).

## Data processing and Calorific Value calculation

All required calculations according to ISO 6976 like Calorific Value, Gross heating value, density and compression factor are fully integrated in Chromeleon data system, therefore data export to external software is not needed. The result is a reliable, user friendly and workflow based system. Calculation and reporting start automatically after each run (figure 6). Figure 7 shows the excellent repeatability.

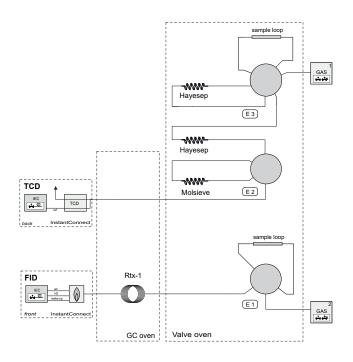


Figure 2. Diagram NGA-2A extended



Figure 3. Modular injector/detector technology

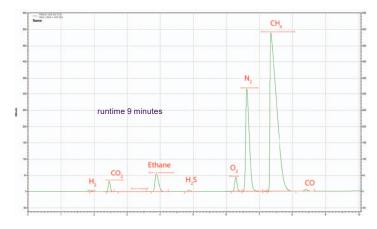
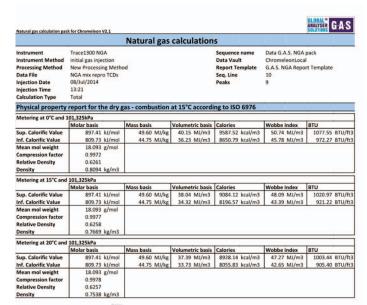


Figure 4. Chromatogram TCD channel NGA-2A Extended analyser



Composition rep	oort (mol %)			
Component Name	Retention min	Area pA*min	Amount mol%	
Propane	1.537	48.055	1.000	
2-Methylpropane	1.918	12.705	0.200	
n-Butane	2.240	12.784	0.200	
2,2-Dimethylpropane	2.400	3.985	0.050	
2-Methylbutane	3.381	3.887	0.050	
n-Pentane	3.866	3.909	0.050	
n-Hexane	5.709	4.688	0.050	
Carbon Dioxide	3.053	9.390	1.499	
Ethane	4.913	24.868	4.000	
Nitrogen	8.215	24.166	3.998	
Methane	9.517	395.946	89.035	
Dihydrogen sulphide	4.170	0.022	0.001	
Carbonyl Sulfide	4.863	0.001	0.001	
Methylmercaptan	8.075	0.048	0.001	

Figure 6. Calorific Value Report by Chromeleon

### **NGA Options**

- NGA 1: (1 valve, 1 TCD);  $C_1$ - $C_5$ ,  $C_6$ +,  $N_2$ ,  $CO_2$  (ISO 6974-4)
- NGA 3: (3 valves, 1 TCD);  $C_1$ - $C_5$ ,  $C_6$ +,  $O_2$ ,  $N_2$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $H_2$ S (ASTM D1945
- Additional channel for low level sulphur using FPD, PFPD (figure 8) or mass spectrometer (figure 10)
- Additional channel with carrier gas argon or nitrogen for helium and hydrogen analysis
- Stop flow valve or back pressure regulator to control the pressure in the sample loop (precise and repeatable volume)
- Stream selection valve for analysing different samples and calibration gases
- Mass Spectrometer for ppb level detection of sulphur components, siloxanes and terpenes. (figure 10)
- CompactGC<sup>4.0</sup>: Fast NGA on a small footprint (2 minutes runtime), see figure 9 (application note available)

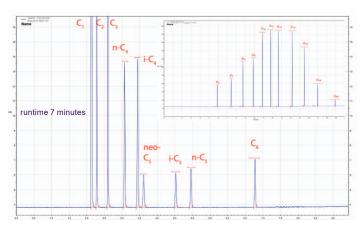


Figure 5. Chromatogram FID channel NGA-2A Extended analyser

TRACE 1300 G C-TCD	CO2	Ethane	Nitrogen	Methane
Sample ID	Area	Area	Area	Area
Reprotest NGA 111	2226454	5898353	5345064	90507939
Reprotest NGA 112	2217093	5902294	5346925	90445635
Reprotest NGA 113	2215965	5903676	5346602	90526422
Reprotest NGA 114	2227435	5904121	5345091	90517862
Reprotest NGA 115	2213580	5897482	5346060	90501697
Reprotest NGA 116	2217296	5901460	5349411	90488306
Reprotest NGA 117	2222737	5903879	5349656	90549145
Reprotest NGA 118	2219658	5908502	5350448	90595649
Reprotest NGA 119	2223410	5902305	5351021	90504111
Reprotest NGA 120	2217703	5904050	5353904	90638117
Reprotest NGA 121	2225062	5898589	5345321	90599110
Reprotest NGA 122	2219024	5902849	5351045	90574361
Reprotest NGA 123	2224970	5902603	5350286	90568154
Reprotest NGA 124	2226904	5901536	5349733	90598430
Reprotest NGA 125	2223668	5904325	5345351	90531033
Reprotest NGA 126	2232354	5907475	5351045	90639410
Reprotest NGA 127	2224065	5903110	5350234	90640979
Reprotest NGA 128	2219309	5904037	5352404	90670039
Reprotest NGA 129	2216183	5913463	5352165	90560228
Reprotest NGA 130	2221801	5909808	5346745	90588078
Min:	2213580	5897482	5345064	90445635
Max:	2232354	5913463	5353904	90670039
Mean:	2221734	5903696	5348926	90562235
Std Dev:	4782	3839	2770	59659
%RSD:	0.22	0.07	0.05	0.07

Figure 7. Example repeatability NGA-2A Extended

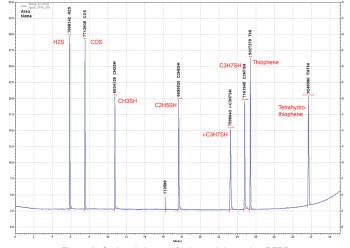


Figure 8. Optional channel for low sulphur using PFPD. (5 ppm standard)



Figure 9. Fast NGA on CompactGC4.0

## **Specification**

NGA configuration: NGA-2A Extended

Standardised methods: ASTM D1945, D1946, ISO 6974, 6975, 6976, GPA 2261, 2177, 2186, 2286

GC instrument: 2 channel instrument based on Thermo TRACE GC 1300

Optional: Addition channel for low level sulphur using FPD, PFPD (figure 8) or mass spectrometer (figure 9)

Additional channel with carrier gas argon or nitrogen for helium and hydrogen analysis

Stop flow valve or back pressure regulator

Stream selection valve for analysing different samples and calibration gases

Mass Spectrometer for ppb level detection of sulphur components, siloxanes and terpenes (figure 9)

CompactGC: Fast NGA on a small footprint (2 minutes runtime), figure 9

NGA 1: (1 valve, 1 TCD); C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>+, N<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> (ISO 6974-4)

NGA3: (3 valves, 1 TCD); C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>6</sub>+, O<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S (ASTM D1945)

Sample tubing: Sulfinert® tubing for inert sample path (H<sub>2</sub>S analysis)

Application: Custom configured analyser for the analysis of gaseous natural gas samples, containing hydrocarbons,

permanent gases and sulfur (H<sub>2</sub>S)

Sample requirements: See our pre-installation guide for additional requirements

Analysis Time: 9 minutes up to C<sub>8</sub>; 20 minutes up to C<sub>20</sub>

Minimum detectability: Better than 0.01% for all individual components. H<sub>2</sub>S: 0.05%

Dynamic Range: Four decades for all components

Accuracy: Dependant on external calibration and repeatability

Repeatability: < 0.1 % RSD for CH<sub>4</sub> (see table on page 3)

Datasystem: Chromeleon, OpenLab

Calculations: Calorific value (sup. and inf.), mean molecular weight, compression factor, relative density,



Figure 10. NGA with XXL valve oven, mass spectrometer and stream selector



Interscience company