



National Institute of Standards & Technology

Certificate of Analysis

Standard Reference Material® 1693a

Sulfur Dioxide in Nitrogen

(Nominal Amount-of-Substance Fraction - 50 $\mu\text{mol/mol}$)

This certificate reports the certified value for Lot 96-J-XX.

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is a primary gas mixture to which the amount-of-substance fraction, expressed as concentration [1], of secondary working standards may be related. The SRM is intended for the calibration of instruments used for sulfur dioxide determinations and for other applications including chemical analysis.

This SRM mixture is supplied in a DOT 3AL specification aluminum (6061 alloy) cylinder with a water volume of 6 L. Mixtures are shipped with a nominal pressure exceeding 12.4 MPa (1800 psi), which provides the user with 0.73 m³ (25.8 ft³) of useable mixture. The cylinder is the property of the purchaser and is equipped with a CGA-660 stainless steel valve, which is the recommended outlet for this sulfur dioxide mixture. NIST recommends that this cylinder not be used below 0.7 MPa (100 psi).

Certified Value: This SRM mixture has been certified for sulfur dioxide concentration. The certified value, given below, applies to the identified cylinder and NIST sample number.

Sulfur Dioxide Concentration = $\mu\text{mol/mol} \pm 1.0 \mu\text{mol/mol}$

Cylinder Number:

NIST Sample Number:

The uncertainty of the certified value includes the estimated uncertainties in the NIST standards, the analytical comparisons to the lot standard (LS), and the uncertainty of comparing the LS with each of the mixtures comprising this lot. This uncertainty is expressed as an expanded uncertainty, $U = ku_c$, with u_c determined by experiment and a coverage factor $k = 2$. The true value for the sulfur dioxide amount-of-substance fraction is asserted to lie in the interval defined by the certified value $\pm U$ with a level of confidence of approximately 95 % [2].

Expiration of Certification: This certification is valid until **01 November 2004**, within the measurement uncertainties specified, provided the SRM is handled and stored in accordance with the instructions given in this certificate. However, the certification will be nullified if the SRM is contaminated or modified.

Cylinder and Gas Handling Information: NIST recommends the use of a high purity, stainless steel, two-stage pressure regulator with a stainless steel diaphragm and CGA-660 outlet to safely reduce the pressure and to deliver this SRM mixture to the instrument. The regulator should be purged several times to prevent accidental contamination of the sample.

The support aspects involved in the preparation, certification, and issuance of this SRM were coordinated through the NIST Standard Reference Materials Program by J.C. Colbert.

Willie E. May, Chief
Analytical Chemistry Division

Gaithersburg, MD 20899
Certificate Issue Date: 19 February 2002

John Rumble, Jr., Acting Chief
Standard Reference Materials Program

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The analytical measurements leading to the certification of this current SRM lot were performed by G.D. Mitchell of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division.

The overall direction and coordination of the technical work required for certification of this SRM lot were performed by F.R. Guenther of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division.

Mixture Preparation: The gas mixtures comprising this SRM lot were prepared in accordance with NIST technical specifications by a commercial specialty gas vendor under contract to NIST. The specifications stipulate that each SRM mixture be identical in sulfur dioxide concentration and stable with time.

Analytical Methods: Analyses of the sulfur dioxide concentration for this lot of cylinders were conducted by intercomparing each cylinder mixture to a representative cylinder chosen from the lot, the LS, using an electrochemical analyzer. Assignment of the sulfur dioxide concentration to the LS was accomplished by intercomparison to primary gravimetric standards using an electrochemical analyzer.

Homogeneity Analysis: Each of the sulfur dioxide mixtures, which comprise this SRM lot, was compared to the LS using the electrochemical analyzer. An analysis of variance indicates that the sample-to-sample sulfur dioxide concentration differences were statistically significant. This indicates that within the precision of the NIST measurements, all of the cylinders comprising this SRM lot have different sulfur dioxide concentrations.

Sulfur Dioxide Concentration Value Assignment: The certified sulfur dioxide concentration for this SRM lot was computed from the assigned concentration for the LS and the homogeneity analysis.

Stability: Periodic analyses of SRM units from this lot are performed at NIST to monitor stability. If significant changes in the sulfur dioxide concentration are observed, the purchaser will be notified. Refer to the Cylinder and Gas Handling Information section for proper handling of this SRM.

REFERENCES

- [1] Taylor, B.N., "Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)," NIST Special Publication 811, 1995 Ed., (April 1995).
- [2] *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement*, ISBN 92-67-10188-9, 1st Ed. ISO, Geneva, Switzerland, (1993); see also Taylor, B.N. and Kuyatt, C.E., "Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results," NIST Technical Note 1297, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, (1994); available at <http://physics.nist.gov/Pubs/>.

Users of this SRM should ensure that the certificate in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program at: telephone (301) 975-6776; fax (301) 926-4751; e-mail srminfo@nist.gov; or via the Internet <http://www.nist.gov/srm>.