

# Hydrogen purity introduction

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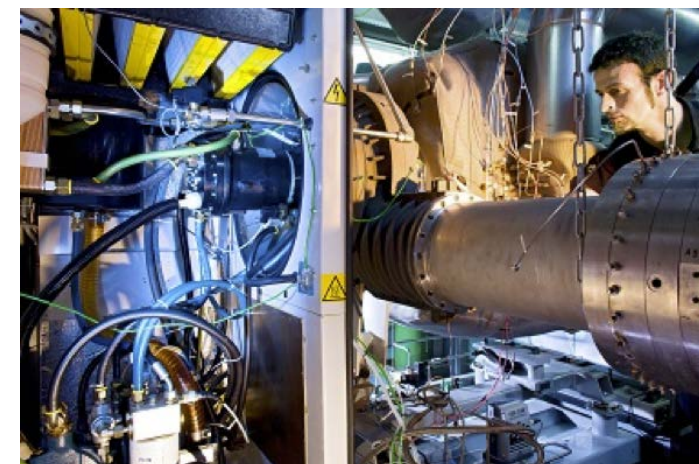
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# Overview

- Applications of hydrogen
- Classification of hydrogen grades
- Fuel quality specifications
- Impact of impurities
- Hydrogen production
- Hydrogen purification

# Applications of hydrogen fuel

- ICE
- Hydrogen turbine
- PEM technology



# Classification of hydrogen

Type	Grade	Category	Applications
I Gas	A	—	Internal combustion engines for transportation; Residential/commercial combustion appliances (e.g. boilers, cookers and similar applications)
	B	—	Industrial fuel for power generation and heat generation except PEM fuel cell applications
	C	—	Aircraft and space-vehicle ground support systems except PEM fuel cell applications
	D	—	PEM fuel cells for road vehicles
	E	PEM fuel cells for stationary appliances	
		1	High efficiency/low power; minimum hydrogen fuel index of 50%
		2	High power; minimum hydrogen fuel index of 50%
		3	Hydrogen applications; minimum hydrogen fuel index of 99.9%
II Liquid	C	—	Aircraft and space-vehicle on-board propulsion and electrical energy requirements; Off-road vehicles.
	D	—	PEM fuel cells for road vehicles
III Slush	—	—	Aircraft and space-vehicle on-board propulsion

ISO 14687-2:2019



Slush hydrogen



# Fuel quality specification: non-PEM

Constituents (assay)	Type I			Type II	Type III
	Grade A	Grade B	Grade C	Grade C	
Hydrogen fuel index <sup>a</sup> (minimum mole fraction, %)	98,0 %	99,90 %	99,995 %	99,995 %	99,995 %
<i>Para</i> -hydrogen (minimum mole fraction, %)	NS	NS	NS	95,0 %	95,0 %
<b>Impurities</b> (maximum content)					
Total gases			50 µmol/mol	50 µmol/mol	
Water (mole fraction, %)	NC <sup>b</sup>	NC	c	c	
Total hydrocarbon	100 µmol/mol	NC	c	c	
Oxygen	b	100 µmol/mol	d	d	
Argon	b		d	d	
Nitrogen	b	400 µmol/mol	c	c	
Helium			39 µmol/mol	39 µmol/mol	
CO <sub>2</sub>			e	e	
CO	1 µmol/mol		e	e	
Mercury		0,004 µmol/mol			
Sulfur	2,0 µmol/mol	10 µmol/mol			
Permanent particulates	g	f	f	f	
Density					f

NOTE 1 NS: Not specified

NOTE 2 NC: Not to be condensed

a The hydrogen fuel index is determined by subtracting the "total non-hydrogen gases" expressed in mole percent, from 100 mole percent.

b Combined water, oxygen, nitrogen and argon: maximum mole fraction of 1,9 %.

c Combined nitrogen, water and hydrocarbon: max. 9 µmol/mol.

d Combined oxygen and argon: max. 1 µmol/mol.

e Total CO<sub>2</sub> and CO: max. 1 µmol/mol.

f To be agreed between supplier and customer.

g The hydrogen shall not contain dust, sand, dirt, gums, oils, or other substances in an amount sufficient to damage the fuelling station equipment or the vehicle (engine) being fuelled.

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# Fuel quality specification: PEM automotive

Constituents (assay)	Type I, Type II Grade D
Hydrogen fuel index (minimum mole fraction) <sup>a</sup>	99,97 %
Total non-hydrogen gases	300 µmol/mol
<b>Maximum concentration of individual contaminants</b>	
Water (H <sub>2</sub> O)	5 µmol/mol
Total hydrocarbons except methane <sup>b</sup> (C1 equivalent)	2 µmol/mol
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	100 µmol/mol
Oxygen (O <sub>2</sub> )	5 µmol/mol
Helium (He)	300 µmol/mol
Nitrogen (N <sub>2</sub> )	300 µmol/mol
Argon (Ar)	300 µmol/mol
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	2 µmol/mol
Carbon monoxide (CO) <sup>c</sup>	0,2 µmol/mol
Total sulfur compounds <sup>d</sup> (S1 equivalent)	0,004 µmol/mol
Formaldehyde (HCHO) <sup>e</sup>	0,2 µmol/mol
Formic acid (HCOOH) <sup>e</sup>	0,2 µmol/mol
Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> )	0,1 µmol/mol
Halogenated compounds <sup>e</sup> (Halogen ion equivalent)	0,05 µmol/mol
Maximum particulate concentration <sup>f, g</sup>	1 mg/kg

For the constituents that are additive, such as total hydrocarbons and total sulfur compounds, the sum of the constituents shall be less than or equal to the acceptable limit.

<sup>a</sup> The hydrogen fuel index is determined by subtracting the "total non-hydrogen gases" in this table, expressed in mole percent, from 100 mole percent.

<sup>b</sup> Total hydrocarbons except methane include oxygenated organic species. Total hydrocarbons except methane shall be measured on a C1 equivalent (µmolC/mol).

<sup>c</sup> Sum of CO, HCHO, HCOOH shall not exceed 0.2 µmol/mol.

<sup>d</sup> As a minimum, total sulfur compounds include H<sub>2</sub>S, COS, CS<sub>2</sub> and mercaptans, which are typically found in natural gas.

<sup>e</sup> Halogenated compounds include, for example, hydrogen chloride (HCl) and organic halides (R-X). Halogenated compounds shall be measured on a halogen ion equivalent (µmol/mol).

<sup>f</sup> Particulate includes solid and liquid particulates. Large particulates can cause issues with vehicle components and should be limited by using filter as specified in ISO19880-1 and ISO19880-8.

<sup>g</sup> Particulate includes oil mist. No visible oil shall be found in fuel at a nozzle.

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# Fuel quality specification: PEM stationary

Constituents (assay)	Type I, grade E		
	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Hydrogen fuel index <sup>a</sup> (minimum mole fraction)	50 %	50 %	99,9 %
Total non-hydrogen gases (maximum mole fraction)	50 %	50 %	0,1%
Water (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sup>b</sup>	Non-condensing at all ambient conditions	Non-condensing at all ambient conditions	Non-condensing at all ambient conditions
Maximum concentration of individual contaminants <sup>c</sup>			
Total hydrocarbons except methane <sup>d</sup> (C <sub>1</sub> equivalent)	10 µmol/mol	2 µmol/mol	2 µmol/mol
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	5 %	1 %	100 µmol/mol
Oxygen (O <sub>2</sub> )	200 µmol/mol	200 µmol/mol	50 µmol/mol
Sum of nitrogen (N <sub>2</sub> ), argon (Ar) and helium (He) (mole fraction)	50 %	50 %	0,1 %
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	Included in total non- hydrogen gases	Included in total non- hydrogen gases	2 µmol/mol
Carbon monoxide (CO)	10 µmol/mol	10 µmol/mol	0,2 µmol/mol <sup>e</sup>
Total sulfur compounds <sup>f</sup> (S1 equivalent)	0,004 µmol/mol	0,004 µmol/mol	0,004 µmol/mol
Formaldehyde (HCHO)	3,0 µmol/mol	0,2 µmol/mol	0,2 µmol/mol <sup>e</sup>
Formic acid (HCOOH)	10 µmol/mol	0,2 µmol/mol	0,2 µmol/mol <sup>e</sup>
Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> )	0,1 µmol/mol	0,1 µmol/mol	0,1 µmol/mol
Halogenated compounds <sup>g</sup> (Halogen ion equivalent)	0,05 µmol/mol	0,05 µmol/mol	0,05 µmol/mol
Maximum particulate concentration	1 mg/kg	1 mg/kg	1 mg/kg
Maximum particle diameter	75 µm	75 µm	75 µm

**NOTE** For the constituents that are additive, such as total hydrocarbons and total sulfur compounds, the sum of the constituents shall be less than or equal to the acceptable limit.

<sup>a</sup> The hydrogen fuel index is determined by subtracting the "total non-hydrogen gases" in this table, expressed in mole percent, from 100 mole percent.

<sup>b</sup> Each site shall be evaluated to determine the appropriate maximum water content based on the lowest expected ambient temperature and the highest expected storage pressure.

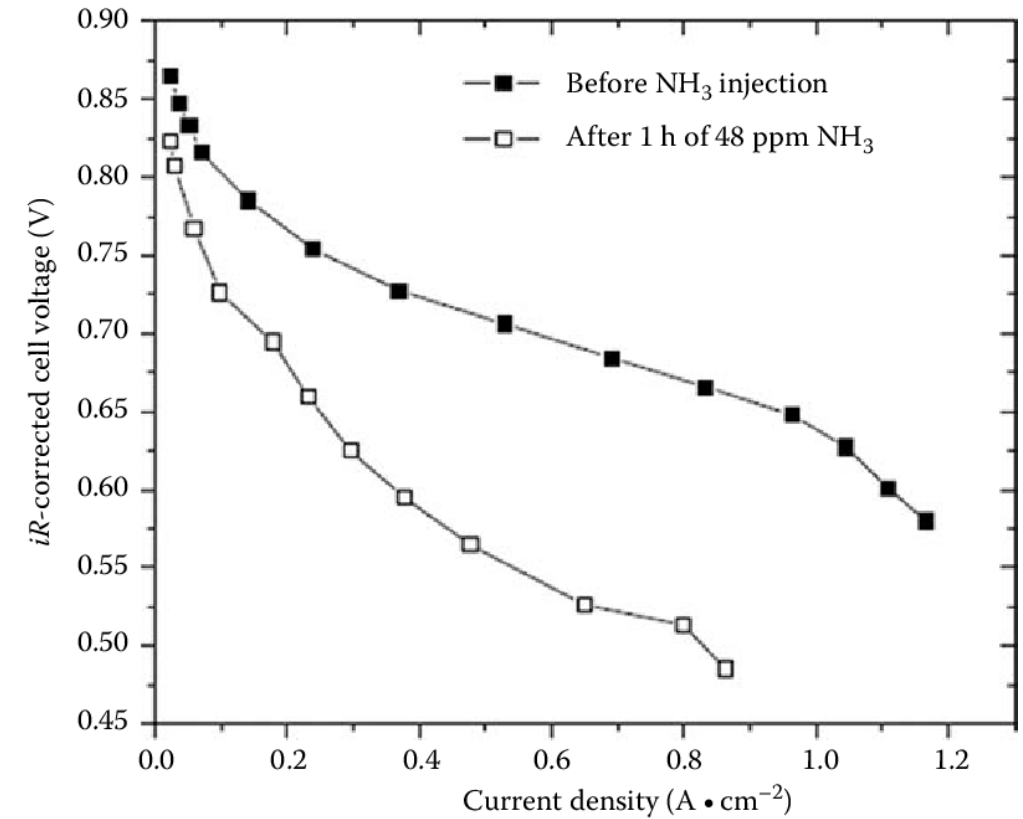
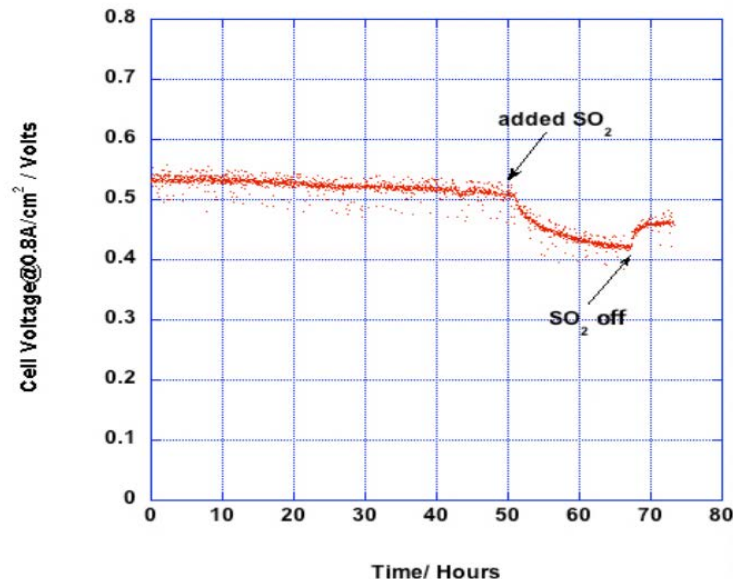
<sup>c</sup> Maximum concentration of impurities against the total gas content shall be determined on a dry-basis.

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# Impact of impurities

- Function of feedstock
- Dilution ( $\text{N}_2$ , Ar, He)
- Catalyst contamination (S, X, CO, HC)
- Balance of plant (inerts,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )
- Membrane contamination ( $\text{NH}_3$ )
- Reversible and irreversible effects

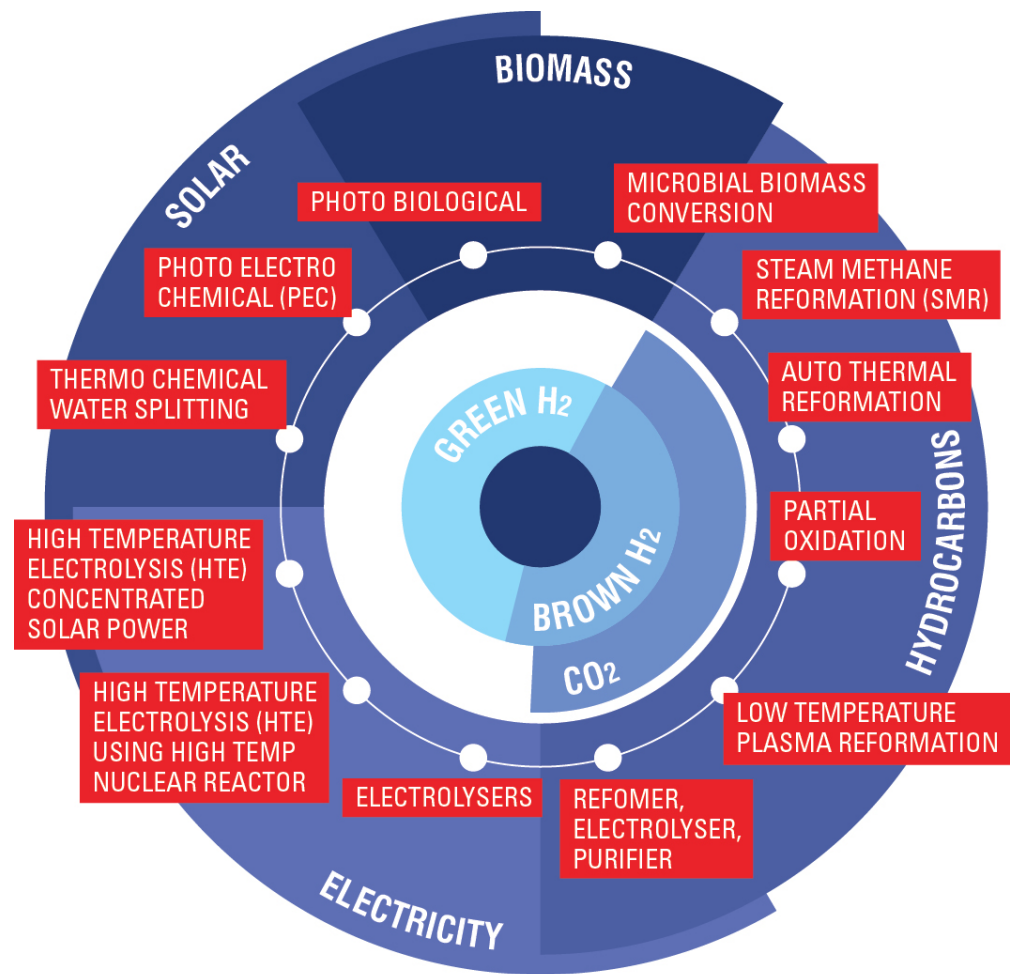


Garzon, ECS Transactions 25(1) 2009





# Hydrogen production



Hydrogen production types

Source	Fraction	Mt
Natural gas	.48	24
Oil/naphtha	.30	15
Coal	.18	9
Water electrolysis	0.039	2
Rest	0.001	0.005

# Hydrogen composition from production

- Composition from production
- Downstream purification
- Target quality

**Table 3 – Gas compositions at the outlet of the reactors for the three processes after CO<sub>2</sub> capture [20]**

Component	Steam reforming	O <sub>2</sub> -Blown ATR (autothermal reforming)	Coal gasification
H <sub>2</sub>	94.3%	93.2%	87.8%
CO	0.1%	1.4%	2.6%
CO <sub>2</sub>	2.5%	1.7%	3.9%
N <sub>2</sub>	0.2%	0.7%	5.0%
Ar	0	0.6%	0.9%
CH <sub>4</sub>	2.9%	2.4%	0.01%
T (°C)	33.3	35.0	30.0
P (bar a)	26.3	25.0	28.0
Q (Nm <sup>3</sup> ·h <sup>-1</sup> )	17318	17631	19402

Besancon, IJHE 34 (2009), pp. 2350-2360

# Hydrogen purification

- Adsorption augmented by
  - Pressure (PSA)
  - Temperature (TSA)
- Getter purifiers (Zr)
- (Pd) membranes
- Cryogenic


RELATIVE STRENGTH OF ADSORPTION			
+	++	+++	++++
He	Ar	CO	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>
H <sub>2</sub>	O <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub>
	N <sub>2</sub>	CO <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>5</sub> +
		C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> S
		C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	NH <sub>3</sub>
		C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O

Fig. 1 – The relative strength of adsorption for gases onto the indicated adsorbents [20].

Besancon, IJHE 34 (2009), pp. 2350-2360

# Hydrogen purity vs. cost

- Impurity interdependence
- Affects  $H_2$  recovery
- QC cost driving

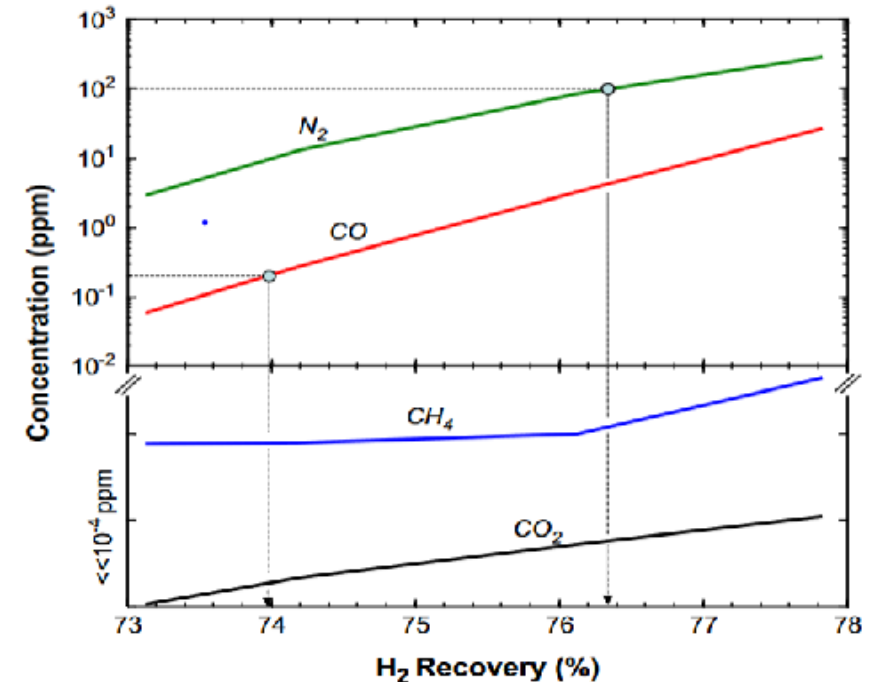


Fig. 3 – Impurity concentrations in the product hydrogen as a function of hydrogen recovery for the base-case set of conditions.

Papadimas, IJHE 34 (2009) 6021–6035

# Commercial hydrogen purity (HiQ example)

	2.5	4.6	5.0	6.0	5.0 Zero	7.0
Purity	99.5	99.996	99.999	99.9999	99.999	99.99999
H <sub>2</sub> O	≤ 600	≤ 5 ppm	≤ 3	≤ 500 ppb	≤ 3 ppm	≤ 50 ppb
O <sub>2</sub>	≤ 500	≤ 5 ppm	≤ 2	≤ 500 ppb	≤ 2 ppm	≤ 30 ppb
HC			≤ 0.5	≤ 100 ppb	≤ 200 ppb	≤ 30 ppb
N <sub>2</sub>	≤ 3000		≤ 5	≤ 500 ppb	≤ 5 ppm	
CO				≤ 100 ppb	≤ 1 ppm	≤ 30 ppb
CO <sub>2</sub>				≤ 100 ppb	≤ 1 ppm	≤ 30 ppb
Total impurities	5000 ppm	40 ppm	10 ppm	1 ppm	10 ppm	100 ppb

FCV fuel: 99.97%, ≤ 200 ppb CO





# Commercial hydrogen purity (AIRGAS example)

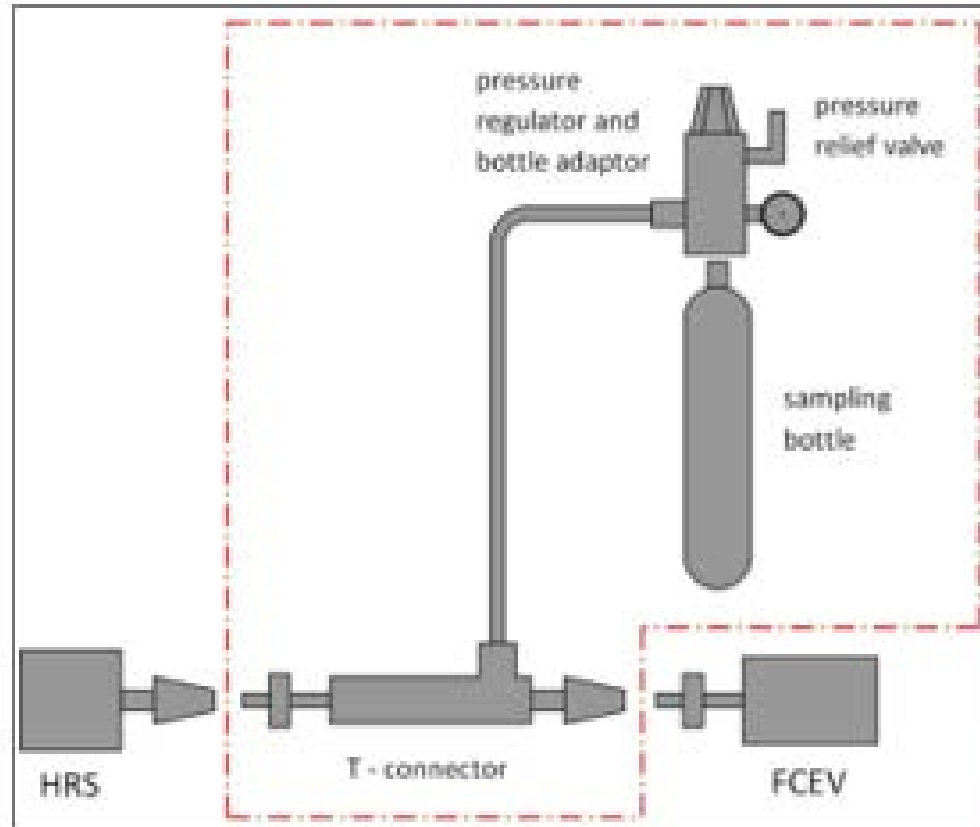
## Hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>)

A flammable, colorless, odorless, compressed gas at high pressure.

Grade	% Purity	O <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O	THC	Ar	CO	CO <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>2</sub>
Research <sup>(1)</sup>	99.9999	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.5
Ultra Pure Carrier	99.9995	1	1	0.5		1 <sup>(2)</sup>	1 <sup>(2)</sup>	3
Semiconductor <sup>(2)</sup>	99.999	1	2	0.5		1 <sup>(2)</sup>	1 <sup>(2)</sup>	5
Ultra High Purity	99.999	1	2	0.5		1 <sup>(2)</sup>	1 <sup>(2)</sup>	5
Zero Grade	99.998	5	3	0.5				
High Purity/High Pressure	99.995	4	3					
Prepurified	99.99	10	5					

Concentrations given are ppm by volume unless otherwise specified.

# Sampling of hydrogen for quality control



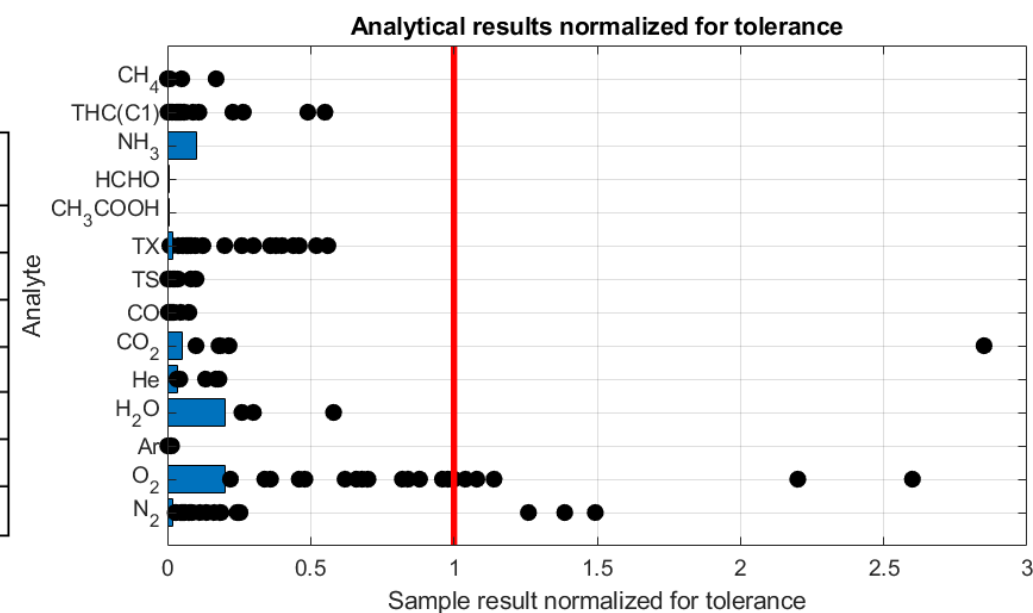
# Analysis of hydrogen samples

- Comprehensive
- Expensive
- Challenging
- Need Risk Assessment to define some of the tolerance limits

Analyte	ASTM	Technique	Pre-concentration
THC (C1), HCHO, C-X	D7892	GC-MS	Cryo/TD/Cryo
He	D1946	GC-TCD	
N <sub>2</sub> , Ar, O <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> O, CO <sub>2</sub>	D7649	GC-MS	
CO	D1946	GC-TCD	Cryo
HCO <sub>2</sub> H, NH <sub>3</sub> , HCl, HBr, Cl <sub>2</sub>	WK34574(v1)	GC-ELCD	Cryo/TD/Cryo
Total sulfur	D7652	GC-SCD	Cryo/Cryo

# Hydrogen purity: HyCoRA results

	N <sub>2</sub>	O <sub>2</sub>	Ar	H <sub>2</sub> O	He	CO <sub>2</sub>	CO	TS	TX	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	HCHO	NH <sub>3</sub>	THC (C1)	CH <sub>4</sub>
<b>Tol</b>	300	5	300	5	300	2	0,2	0,004	0,05	0,2	0,2	0,1	2	100
<b>LOD</b>	5	1	0,4	1	10	0,1	0,0005	0,0001	0,01	0,001	0,001	0,01	0,001	0,001
<b>mean</b>	131	4,58	1,24	1,90	33,6	1,21	0,003	6,7E-05	0,01	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,25	1,00
<b>mean*</b>	32,6	3,51	1,24	1,90	33,6	0,312	0,003	6,7E-05	0,01	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	0,19	1,00
<b>ND</b>	2	3	19	25	23	22	0	0	1	28	28	28	0	0
<b>Violations</b>	4	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Max</b>	1443	13	4,3	2,9	54	5,7	0,015	0,0004	0,028				30	17



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# THANK YOU



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