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GAS CONCENTRATION IN AIR

Why is the Measurement of Room Air Quality So Important?

An unsatisfactory room air quality of indoor rooms (e.g. in offices) can easily cause tiredness, poor powers of concentration and even diseases to people. Indicator for the room air quality is the concentration of specific gases in air. The most important ones include:

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
- ► Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Oxygen (O₂)
- ► Ozone (O₃)



CO₂ Concentration

An important criterion for the evaluation of the room air quality is the CO_2 concentration. A CO_2 concentration, which is too high due to insufficient ventilation, is experienced as stale or stagnant air. The illustration above shows the range of CO_2 concentrations that are relevant to a human.

CO Concentration

CO is produced when carbon is only partially combusted (fuel). CO is very dangerous for humans because it is at the same time highly toxic - and invisible and odorless. Reasons for the production of CO in various combustion processes :

- deficiency of air
- ► too high excess of air
- ► too early cooling down of flame

Effects of CO in the ambient air on the human body

CO concentration		Inhalation period and consequences	
30 ppm	0.0003%	Maximum concentration in the workplace per 8-hour shift (German MAK value)	
200 ppm	0.02%	Slight headache within 2 to 3 hours	
400 ppm	0.04%	Headache within 1 to 2 hours, first in the forehead and temples, then spreading to the whole head	
800 ppm	0.08%	Dizziness, nausea, and twitching limbs within 45 minutes, unconsciousness within 2 hours	
1600 ppm	0.16%	Headache, dizziness, nausea within 20 minutes, death within 2 hours	
3200 ppm	0.32%	Headache, dizziness, nausea within 5 to 10 minutes, death within 30 minutes	
6400 ppm	0.64%	Headache and dizziness within 1 to 2 minutes, death within 10 to 15 minutes	
12800 ppm	1.28%	Death within 1 to 3 minutes	

Applications

- measurement, control, and warning system in garages,
- ▶ monitoring of room air quality with respect to maximum permissible workplace concentration (MAK value)
- ▶ monitoring of outside air or of protected air systems in domestic and large public shelters

O₂ Concentration

The inhaled air consists of vital oxygen at a ratio of 1:5. Oxygen is required for all oxidation processes; for combustion processes, as well as for silent oxidations. Examples include the rusting of iron, oxidations, which occur in living processes, or the decomposition of organic material. Additionally, all combustion processes that release energy require this gas, for example, heating systems or aircraft engines. However, oxygen is also bound with any type of noxious fires such as forest and heath fires. Due to the permanent cycle of assimilation and photosynthesis in green plants when they are subject to sunshine, oxygen is continuously re-formed from carbon dioxide. The balance between oxygen consumption and oxygen production is disturbed by the continuously increasing combustion of fossil combustibles. Therefore, many areas require control measurements of the oxygen content in the air, e.g. in air condition systems, air purifiers, oxygen rectifiers, greenhouses and oxygen incubators, as well as for exhaust emission tests, e.g. in the automotive industry.

O₃ Concentration

The ozone contained in the earth's atmosphere forms at altitudes of approximately 30km. It provides a protective shield around the earth and filters out approximately 50% of the solar UV radiation, particularly the short-wave range, which is dangerous for living organisms. However, ozone is toxic and an extremely aggressive trace gas that can cause major burns in human mucous membranes when breathed in high concentrations. Therefore, control measurements for the ozone content in air must be performed in many areas, e.g. leakage tests in industry, protection of health and safety standards at work, mobile-based air quality measurements or for providing environmental data on advertising displays etc.

Calculation Formulae

The following formulae are used for converting the O_3 measured value from ppb to $\mu g/m^3$, depending on the current atm. pressure and the temperature.

Ozone (g/m³) = $\frac{0,57 \text{ x Atm. Press [hPa]}}{\text{Temperature [K]}} \text{ x Ozone (ppb)}$

Example: 20°C and 1013 hPa = factor 2

Ozone $(\mu g/m^3) = 2 \times Ozone (ppb)$ This is the nominal value for conversion from ppb to $\mu g/m^3$.

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Carbon Dioxide Sensor, hand-held Type FYA600CO2H

- Compact sensor for mobile and stationary applications
- ► High display resolution (1 ppm)
- Operation with the device in SLEEP mode is not possible! When operating more than one CO₂ probe on a single ALMEMO[®] device, these CO₂ probes will need their own external power supply ! On request we can offer a wide variety of power supply options to suit your particular measuring setup.

Types (including calibration certificate) Carbon dioxide sensor, hand-held including connecting cable, 1.5 m long for measuring CO₂ in air

Order no. FYA600CO2H

2-channel infra-red absorption principle	
0 to 10 000 ppm (0 to 1 vol% CO ₂)	
0 to 5000 ppm± (50 ppm+ 2% of measured value) 5000 to 10000 ppm ±(100 ppm +3% of meas. value)	
1 ppm or 0,0001 vol %	
22°C ±2 °C / 50 % rF ± 10 % rF	
0 to +50 °C	
-20 to +50 °C	
0 to 90 % rF (non-condensing)	
0,4% of measured value / °C	
6.5 to 12 V DC, from the ALMEMO® device Operation with mains supply unit recommended !	
effective approx. 40 mA; max. approx. 80 mA	
1,5 m	

Carbon Dioxide Probe Type FYA600CO2



- Since the gas is supplied by means of free convection, this is especially suitable for climatology measurements.
- ► Various measuring ranges up to 25%
- Operation with the device in SLEEP mode is not possible! When operating more than one CO₂ probe on a single ALMEMO[®] device, these CO₂ probes will need their own external power supply ! On request we can offer a wide variety of power supply options to suit your particular measuring setup.

Type:

Carbon dioxide sensor

- including connecting cable 1.5m long
- for CO₂ measurements in air **Order No. FYA600CO2** (Please specify measuring range !)

(Please specify

Technical Data:		
Gas:	CO_2	
Measuring principle:	IR optics	
Measuring ranges:	nominal (% CO ₂): 0 0.5%, 0 2.5%, 0 10%, 0 25%	
Accuracy:	±2% of fin. val.	
Reproducibility:	±1% of final value	
Resolution:	(depending on measuring range) 50 100ppm at 5000ppm <200ppm at 2.5%	
Voltage output:	0 2V for the selected measuring range	
Current output:	referred to GND max. burden (load resist.): 400 Ω	
Power supply:	6.5 to 12VDC from the ALMEMO [®] device Operation with mains supply unit recommended !	
Current consumpt.	eff. 50mA/ max. 70mA	
Settling time t₀:	< 60s	
Temperature coefficient:	typical –0.4% signal/K	
Temperature range:	5 to +40°C	
Relative humidity:	0 to 95%	
Dimensions:	W 96mm x H 36mm x D 64mm	
Weight:	241g	
Connecting cable:	1.5m long, ALMEMO® connector	

Carbon Monoxide Probe Type FYA600CO



Applications:

For measurement, control and warnings in garages, for monitoring the air quality with respect to the maximum allowable concentration at work places (MAC value, e.g. in laboratories and engine test benches), for monitoring the outside air or protected air systems in house shelters or large shelter buildings.

 Particularly suitable for long-term measurements of the carbon monoxide concentration in air, in a range from 0 ... 150ppm to 0 ... 5vol%.

Type:

Carbon monoxide sensor including connecting cable 1.5m long for CO measurements in air **Order No. FYA600CO**

Technical Data:		
Gas:	СО	
Measuring principle:	electrochemical reaction	
Measuring range:	0 150 ppm, 0 300 ppm, 0 5%	
Zero point error:	< 10 ppm CO	
Gauge reading balance:	< 3 ppm CO	
Error of meas. value:	±3% of full scale value	
Zero point drift:	< 2% (1 year)	
Reproducibility:	< 2% (1 year)	
Linearity:	< 2% of full scale value	
Settling time t ₉₀ :	< 60s	
Transverse sensitivity:	< 2% by integrated filter	
Output:	4 20 mA on ALMEMO® connector	
Supply voltage:	from the ALMEMO® measuring instrument	
Ambient temperature:	-10 to +40°C, sensor temperature compensated in range	
Air humidity:	0 to 90% non-condensing	
Life span of the meas. cell:	approx. 2 years	
Dimensions of meas. head:	Ø 80mm, height 80mm	
Weight:	600g	
Connecting cable:	1.5m, with ALMEMO [®] connector	

Oxygen Probe Type FYA600O2



- Examples from the range of applications: Measurements in air conditioning systems, air purifiers, oxygen rectifiers, greenhouses and oxygen incubators.
- Approved by PTB and approved for exhaust emission measurements in the automotive industry.



A correction value can be stored in the ALMEMO[®] connector plug to compensate for the natural ageing of the probes, so optimum output characteristics can be ensured for the whole operating life.

Type:

Oxygen sensor including connecting cable 1.5m long for O₂ measurements in air **Order No. FYA600O2**

For Reordering:Oxygen sensorOrderALMEMO® connecting cableOrder

Order No. FY9600O2 Order No. ZA9600AKO2

Technical Data:

Gas:	O ₂	
Measuring principle:	electrochemical cell	
Measuring range:	1 100% O ₂ , linear	
Accuracy :	1% O ₂	
Resolution :	0.01% O ₂	
Response time:	< 40s	
Signal drift:	< 2% signal/month (typ. < 5% over operating life)	
Offset voltage at 20°C:	<20µV	
Operating life:	2 years, if operated in 20.9% $O_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$	
Nominal conditions:	20°C, 50% rH, 1013mbar	
Temperature range:	-20 to +50°C	
Temperature compensation:	effective in range –10 to +40°C	
Pressure range:	atm. pressure ±10%	
Relative humidity:	0 to 99% non-condensing	
Connecting cable:	adapter cable 1.5m long	
Dimensions:	H 43mm x Ø 29.3mm	

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GAS CONCENTRATION IN AIR

Ozone Measuring Transducer Type FYA600O3



- Suitable for many measuring tasks where ozone measurements for control purposes were too expensive to date, e.g. for leakage tests in industry, for protection of health and safety standards at work, for mobile air quality measurements etc.
- Each ozone sensor is supplied with a calibration certificate.
- As a result of the high long-term stability, only small maintenance costs.

Technical Data:

Gas:	O ₃ (ozone)	
Measuring principle:	electrochemical three-electrode sensor	
Measuring range:	0 300 ррb	
Accuracy:	typically 5% of final value under nominal conditions (for intermittent operation)	
Long term accuracy:	after 12 months under nominal conditions typically 5% of final value (for intermittent operation)	
Exposure period :	until specification is reached, at least 2 hours (at 200 ppb); for a prolonged period the device was in an ozone-free environment	
Meas. interval:	pump on: 5min pump off: 10min	
Pump flow rate:	500ml/min	
Signal output:	0 \dots 2V, load resistance > 100k Ω	
Power supply:	6 to 14V, stable	
Current consumption:	pump on : 50 mA, typical pump off : 25 mA, typical pump blocked : 180 mA, typical	
Overload capacity:	1 ppm	
Expected useful life :	Sensor, typically 24 months (at 20 °C) pump, typically 6000 hours	
Nominal conditions:	20°C, 30% r.H., 1013 mbar, no contaminations of the contact surfaces	
Operating range :	-20 to +40 °C / 30 to 80 % RH	
Storage temperature:	0 to 20°C, at 30 to 80% RH non-condensing	
Dimensions:	L 180mm x W 125mm x H 90mm	
Connecting cable:	1.5m long with ALMEMO® connector programmed in ppb	

Type (including calibration certification	ate)	
Ozone sensor including connecting cable 1.5m lo for O_3 measurements in air	ng Order No.	FYA600O3
Option:		
Pump in continuous operation	Ordor No	0000007

(fixed factory setting) Order No. OY960003D Maintenance set : new electro-chemical measuring cell, pump replacement, readjustment, including calibration certificate Order No. ZB960003S

The sensors used for measuring gas concentration in air - at a glance with measuring instrument ALMEMO $^{\mbox{\tiny \ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}}}$ 2590-9



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