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**NATIONAL STANDARD OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

GB/T 46434-2025

**Determination of purity and trace organic impurities of
methanol - Gas chromatography**

甲醇纯度及其微量有机杂质的测定 气相色谱法

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Foreword

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---Some procedures outlined in this document may lead to hazardous situations. Operators are responsible for taking appropriate safety and health precautions. It should comply with the relevant national laws and regulations.

1 Scope

GB/T 46434-2025 is the Chinese national standard covering methanol purity by gas chromatography - the column and the temperature programme that separate the ethanol, acetone and higher alcohols, the internal standard, and the detection limits for the impurities that matter downstream. First edition, in force from 1 May 2026. Issued on 31 October 2025, it has been in force since 1 May 2026.

This document describes a method for determining the purity of methanol products and the content of impurities such as alcohols, ketones, and esters using gas chromatography. This document applies to the determination of methanol products with a mass fraction of not less than 99.0%, where chromatographic conditions 1 are specified for the determination of impurities such as dicarbonate. The detection limit for methyl ester is 4 mg/kg, and the detection limit for other organic impurities is 2 mg/kg; under the conditions specified in chromatographic condition 2, the detection limit for impurity ethylene glycol is [not specified]. The detection limit for alcohol methyl ether is 12 mg/kg, and the detection limits for impurities methyl formate and dimethyl carbonate are 8 mg/kg. For other organic impurities... The detection limit for the substance is 5 mg/kg.

2 Normative references

The contents of the following documents, through normative references within the text, constitute essential provisions of this document. Dated citations are not included. For references to documents, only the version corresponding to that date applies to this document; for undated references, the latest version (including all amendments) applies. This document.

GB/T 3723 General Safety Rules for Sampling of Industrial Chemical Products

GB/T 6680 General Rules for Sampling of Liquid Chemical Products

GB/T 9722 General Rules for Gas Chromatography of Chemical Reagents

3 Terms and Definitions

This document does not contain any terms or definitions that need to be defined.

4. Methodology Summary Gas chromatography was used to separate the components in methanol under selected operating conditions via a capillary column, and flame ionization was used for detection. Detection is performed using a field-indicating detector (FID), and quantification is achieved using the internal standard method or the calibration area normalization method.

5 Reagents or materials

5.1 Methanol. mass fraction not less than 99.90%.

5.2 n-Heptane. with a mass fraction of not less than 99.0%, used as an internal standard or reference.

5.3 Ethanol, 1-propanol, 2-propanol, 2-methyl-1-propanol, 1-butanol, 2-butanol, acetone, butanone, 3-pentanone, methyl formate, methyl acetate, butyric acid Methyl acetate, diethyl carbonate, and ethylene glycol methyl ether. mass fraction not less than 99.0%. 5.4 2-Pentanol, dimethyl carbonate, ethyl methyl carbonate. mass fraction not less than 98.0%.

5.5 Nitrogen. Volume fraction not less than 99.99%, and must be purified by silica gel, molecular sieve or activated carbon before use.