

Alcohols, $C_1 - C_7$

Analysis of a standard congener mixture used as reference for distilled spirits

Application Note

Food Testing & Agriculture

Authors

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Introduction

The Agilent CP-Wax 57 CB phase provides a unique selectivity for the analysis of impurities in alcoholic beverages. Besides the separation of the two fusel alcohols (peaks 12 and 13), the ethyl acetate is separated from the diethyl acetal and the isobutanol from the iso-amylacetate.

The CP-Wax 57 CB has an excellent stability for samples containing high levels of water or water-ethanol mixtures which makes the phase suitable for the analysis of distilled spirits.



Conditions

Technique : GC-capillary

: Agilent CP-Wax 57 CB, 0.25 mm \times 50 m, 0.25 μm Column

(p/n CP97723)

: 40 °C (5 min) → 200 °C, 5 °C/min Temperature Carrier Gas : H₂, 37 kPa (0.37 bar, 5.2 psi)

Injector : Split, 1:50

T = 200 °C

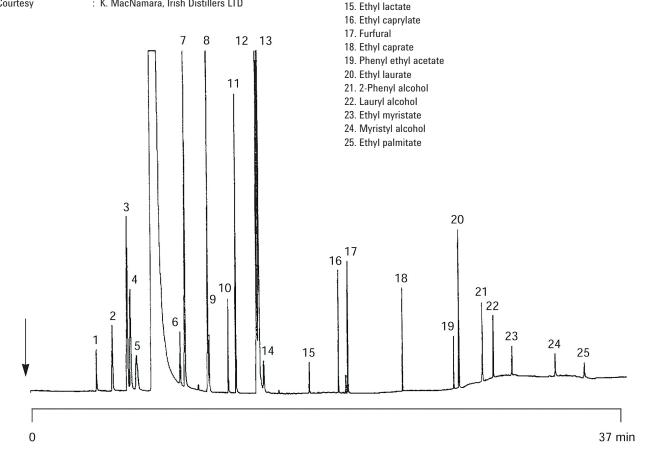
: FID Detector

 $T = 200 \, ^{\circ}C$

: 1.0 µL Sample Size

Solvent Sample : 40% ethanol, 60% water

: K. MacNamara, Irish Distillers LTD Courtesy



Peak identification

1. Acetaldehyde

3. Ethyl acetate

4. Diethyl acetal 5. Methanol

6. Butanol-2

7. Propanol

8. Isobutanol

9. Isoamyl acetate 10. Butanol-1

11. 4-Methyl-2-pentanol

12. 2-Methyl-1-butanol 13. 3-Methyl-1-butanol

14. Ethyl caproate

(internal standard)

2. Methyl acetate

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