ISO 24460:2023-09 (E)

Measurement of fluid flow rate in closed conduits - Radioactive tracer methods

Contents

Page

Foreword ..... **v**

Introduction ..... **vi**

1 Scope **1**

2 Normative references **1**

3 Terms and definitions **1**

4 Principles of radioactive tracer methods **1**
4.1 General 1
4.2 Transit time method 1
4.2.1 Principle 1
4.2.2 Special recommendation for the transit time method 3
4.2.3 Advantages of transit time method 3
4.3 Constant rate injection method 4
4.3.1 Principle 4
4.3.2 Duration of injection 4
4.3.3 Advantage of the constant rate injection method 5
4.4 Integration method 6
4.4.1 Principle 6
4.4.2 Advantages of the integration method 7

5 Choice of radioactive tracer **7**
5.1 General 7
5.1.1 Requirements 7
5.1.2 Radioactive tracers 7
5.2 Advantages of radioactive tracers 8
5.3 Particular advantages of radionuclide generators 8
5.4 Selection of radioactive tracer 8
5.4.1 Type of emitted radiations 8
5.4.2 Half-life 9

6 Choice of adequate mixing length **9**
6.1 General 9
6.2 Consideration on the mixing length 9
6.2.1 General 9
6.2.2 Examples of injection techniques for reducing mixing length 10

7 Detection of radioactive tracer **11**
7.1 General 11
7.2 Gamma radiation detector 11
7.3 Detector arrangement 11
7.4 Data acquisition system 12

8 Procedures for applying radioactive tracer methods **12**
8.1 Transit time method 12
8.1.1 Location of injection cross-section 12
8.1.2 Pulse injection of radioactive tracer 13
8.1.3 Estimation of the activity to be injected 14
8.1.4 Choice of measuring length 15
8.1.5 Calculation of transit time 15
8.2 Constant rate injection method 16
8.2.1 Preparation of the radioactive tracer to be injected 16

8.2.2 Injection of the radioactive tracer 17
8.2.3 Measurement of injection rate 17
8.3 Integration method 17
9 Uncertainty 17
9.1 General 17
9.1.1 Evaluation of uncertainty 17
9.1.2 Procedures for evaluating the uncertainty of a measured flow rate 18
9.1.3 Uncertainty propagation formula 18
9.2 Uncertainty of flow rate measured using the transit time method 19
9.3 Uncertainty of flow rate measured using the constant rate injection method 20
9.4 Uncertainty of flow rate measured using the integration method 22
Annex A (informative) **Calculation of transit time and its standard uncertainty 25**
Annex B (informative) **Radiation dose considerations 31**
Bibliography 32