International Standard



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION MEXACHAPODHAR OPPAHUSALUUR TO CTAHDAPTUSALUUMOORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

# Ferronickel — Determination of silicon content — Gravimetric method

Ferro-nickel - Dosage du silicium - Méthode gravimétrique

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International Standard ISO 8343 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 155 Nickel and nickel alloys.

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## Ferronickel — Determination of silicon content — Gravimetric method

#### 1 Scope and field of application

This International Standard specifies a gravimetric method for the determination of silicon in ferronickel in the range 0,2 to 4,0 % (m/m).

#### 2 Reference

ISO 5725, Precision of test methods - Determination of repeatability and reproducibility by inter-laboratory tests.

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5 Apparatus

5.1

5.2

1100 °C.

Ordinary laboratory apparatus, and

6 Sampling and samples

#### Principle 3

Dissolution of a test portion in nitric acid and addition of per-43:1985 chloric acid. Formation of insoluble silica by dehydration in ds/sist6.158 Sampling and preparation of the laboratory sample shall perchloric acid, filtration, and weighing of the calcined pre-iso-83 be carried out by normal agreed procedures or, in case of cipitate. Volatilization of the silica with hydrofluoric and sulfuric acids, weighing of the residue, determination of the silica by difference and calculation of the silicon content.

#### 4 Reagents

During the analysis, unless otherwise stated, use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and only distilled water or water of equivalent purity.

- Hydrochloric acid,  $\rho_{20} = 1,19$  g/ml. 4.1
- 4.2 Hydrochloric acid,  $\varrho_{20} = 1,19$  g/ml, diluted 1 + 9.
- Hydrofluoric acid,  $\rho_{20} = 1,14$  g/ml. 4.3

WARNING - Hydrofluoric acid is extremely irritating and corrosive to skin and mucous membranes, producing severe skin burns which are slow to heal. In case of skin contact wash well with water and seek medical advice.

Nitric acid,  $\varrho_{20} = 1,41$  g/ml, diluted 1 + 1. 4.4

- **Perchloric acid,**  $\rho_{20} = 1,61 \text{ g/ml} [70 \% (m/m)].$ 4.5
- Sulfuric acid,  $\rho_{20} = 1,83$  g/ml, diluted 1 + 1. 4.6

Beaker, high form, of capacity 600 ml, unetched.

5.3 Muffle furnace, capable of being maintained at

Platinum crucible, of capacity 40 ml.

dispute, by the relevant International Standard.

6.2 The laboratory sample normally is in the form of granules, millings or drillings and no further preparation of the sample is necessary.

6.3 If it is suspected that the laboratory sample is contaminated with oil or grease from the milling or drilling process, it shall be cleaned by washing with high purity acetone and drying in air.

6.4 If the laboratory sample contains particles or pieces of widely varying sizes, the test portion should be obtained by riffling.

#### 7 Procedure

## 7.1 Test portion

**7.1.1** For a silicon content greater than 1 % (m/m) weigh, to the nearest 0,001 g, 2,00 g of the laboratory sample.

7.1.2 For a silicon content between 0,25 and 1 % (m/m)weigh, to the nearest 0,002 g, 4,00 g of the laboratory sample.

7.1.3 For a silicon content less than 0,25 % (m/m) weigh, to the nearest 0,005 g, 10,00 g of the laboratory sample.

## 7.2 Blank test

Carry out a blank test in parallel with the determination, following the same procedure and using the same quantities of all the reagents.

## 7.3 Determination

WARNING — Fuming perchloric acid is a powerful oxidant and can cause an explosive mixture when in contact with organic materials. All evaporations should be done in fume cupboards suitable for use with perchloric acid.

**7.3.1** Transfer the test portion (7.1) to a beaker (5.1), add 50 ml of nitric acid (4.4) and cover with a watch-glass. Heat moderately and when dissolution is almost complete, add 50 ml of perchloric acid (4.5).

 ${\sf NOTE}-{\sf If}$  a 10 g test portion is used, add the nitric acid with care in small portions to prevent too great an effervescence. After dissolution add 70 ml of perchloric acid.

**7.3.2** Heat gently and then progressively more strongly until the appearance of white fumes of perchloric acid. Continue heating until the residue reaches the point of crystallization. Remove from the hotplate and allow to cool. Add 100 ml of near boiling water to dissolve the salts, then add 15 ml of hydrochloric acid (4.1). Dilute to 250 ml with boiling water. Stir and heat for 2 min at just below boiling.

**7.3.3** Filter on a 125 mm folded tilter paper, of medium strain porosity. Rinse the beaker using hot water and clean with a rubber policeman. Wash the filter and contents with hot hydrochloric acid diluted 1 + 9 (4.2) until the yellow colour of iron salts disappears. Finally wash with hot water until the filtrate is acid free. Discard the filtrate and washings.

 $WARNING\,-$  The filter shall be thoroughly washed to eliminate any trace of perchloric acid which could cause an explosion during incineration.

**7.3.4** Place the filter containing the precipitate in a platinum crucible (5.2). Dry on a hotplate or in an oven and ignite in a muffle furnace (5.3) first at low temperature to char the paper. Calcine at 1100 °C for at least 30 min. Allow to cool in a desiccator (5.4) and weigh the crucible containing the calcined precipitate to the nearest 0,1 mg. Repeat the calcination for 30 min intervals until a constant mass is obtained.

**7.3.5** Wet the calcined precipitate with several drops of water. Add about 0,5 ml of sulfuric acid (4.6) followed by about 5 ml of hydrofluoric acid (4.3). Evaporate gently to dryness on a hotplate until sulfuric acid fumes are eliminated. Calcine in a muffle furnace at 1100 °C for 10 min. Allow to cool in a desiccator and weigh the crucible containing the impurities to the nearest 0,1 mg. Repeat the calcination for 10 min intervals until a constant mass is obtained.

## 8 Expression of results

### 8.1 Calculation

The silicon content, expressed as a percentage by mass, in the test portion, is given by the formula

$$0,467 \times \frac{m_1 - m_2 - m_3}{m_0} \times 100$$

where

- $m_0$  is the mass, in grams, of the test portion;
- $m_1$  is the mass, in grams, of the crucible and impure silica;

 $m_2$  is the mass, in grams, of the crucible plus residual impurities;

NOTE – The difference  $m_1 - m_2$  is the mass, in grams, of the pure silica volatilized.

 $m_3$  is the mass, in grams, of the pure silica given by the blank test;

0,467 is the conversion factor for silica to silicon.

## 8.2 Precision

This International Standard was subjected to a limited interlaboratory test programme involving only five laboratories in four countries.

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.3 Filter on a 125 mm folded filter paper of medium stand Repeatability and reproducibility were calculated according to rosity. Rinse the beaker using hot water and clean with a 80664 the principles of ISO 5725 with the results given in the table.

## Table

Silicon content [% (m/m)]	0,26	1,01	2,56
Standard deviations — within laboratory, s <sub>w</sub> — between laboratories, s <sub>b</sub>	0,005 0,001	0,022 0,012	0,014 0,027
Repeatability, <i>r</i>	0,013	0,062	0,039
Reproducibility, R	0,014	0,071	0,087

## 9 Test report

The test report shall include the following information:

- a) the reference to the method used;
- b) the results of the analysis;
- c) the number of independent replications;
- d) any unusual features noted during the analysis;

e) any operation not included in this International Standard or regarded as optional.