

# DynamiQ-S micro GC

Gas chromatographs for fast and accurate gas analysis anywhere



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The **DynamiQ-S** provides fast and accurate gas analysis for monitoring or industrial lab analysis purposes.

The instrument can be programmed for continuous unattended process monitoring as well as manual gas analysis.

The **micro GC** is extremely compact while its capabilities are massive. The integrated micro GC chips enable analysis times of less than a minute.



# DynamiQ-S micro GC

## Very short analysis times

The DynamiQ-S micro GC accommodates one to four gas chromatograph (GC) units working in parallel, each performing a different GC analysis under individually optimized conditions. Each GC unit contains a state-of-the-art microchip-based injector and a thermal conductivity detector (TCD) combined with a proven microbore GC column, and is set with optimal chromatography conditions. This enables a compact instrument as well as very short analysis times of typically less than a minute.

## Continuous monitoring

The instrument is designed for continuous monitoring and therefore works in a stand-alone configuration using the integrated processor on a future-proof operating system based on Linux RT, without the need for a separate controller to give commands. In addition, dedicated DynamiQ PC software can be used to analyze the collected data in

further detail and to change operation settings. The PC can be connected to the micro GC at any location via a network connection.

## Versatile instrument

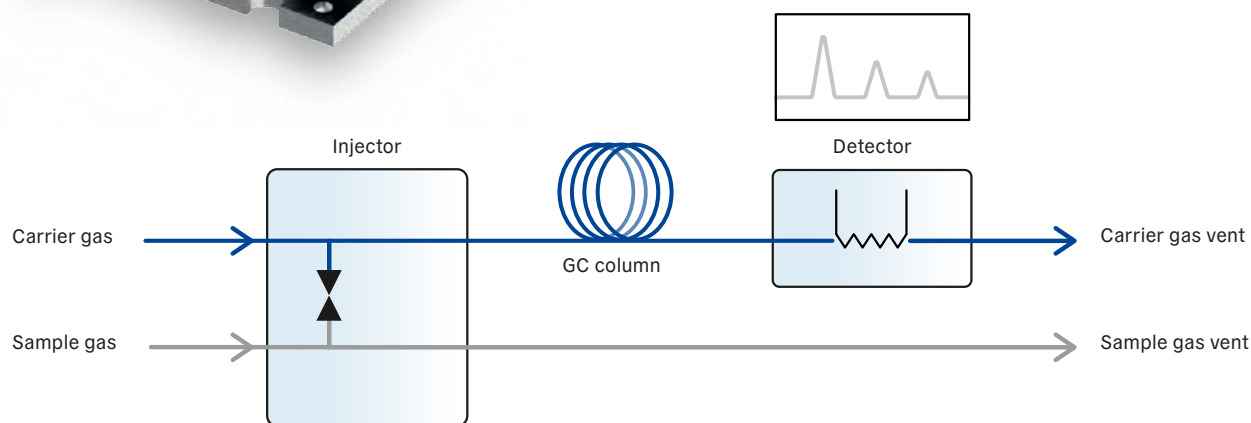
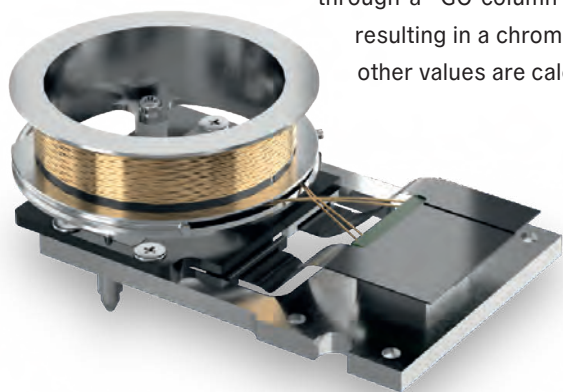
By selecting different columns in the GC units, a wide range of gas analysis applications can be served. The instruments are factory tested with standard gas components, but users can change gases and optimize methods and thus applications using the DynamiQ PC software. Methods can be optimized for client-specific applications using the automatic parameter variation tool in the software.

## Compact device

The compact instrument has a volume of only 4l and weighs less than 8kg, so it is very easy to transport and can be deployed anywhere for gas analysis if local power and gas bottles are available.

## DynamiQ's micro gas chromatography

The gas analysis is realized by means of gas chromatography, a proven analysis method for determining the chemical composition of a gas mixture. A small volume of the sample gas is injected into the carrier gas and this mixture flows through a "GC column", where the gas components are separated and individually detected, resulting in a chromatogram. From this chromatogram, the components' concentrations and other values are calculated.



### Injector

Time-controlled injection is used, with an integrated array of pneumatically controlled micro membrane valves. This makes injection extremely accurate and reproducible, and provides short analysis times.

Both the sample gas and the carrier gas flow continuously into the GC and through the chips of all GC units. Inside these chips is a small chamber called the sample loop, through which the sample gas is continuously flowing. At injection, this sample loop is closed off, pressurized by carrier gas pressure, followed by a release towards the columns. The advantage of this principle is that sample gas is injected at controlled carrier gas pressure, and consequently there is no measurement error caused by a pressure variation.

### Detector

The in-house fabricated detector chip is a thermal conductivity detector (TCD), a robust device featuring simplicity, a large dynamic range, a general response to both organic and inorganic species and a non-destructive character. The temperature-controlled micro TCD – with 2×24-bit digital detector electronics – automatically adapts to different gases and is protected against overheating. Qmicro's microchip TCD technology results in a detection limit better than 0.5 ppm (for pentane).

### Back-flush to detector

The DynamiQ-S micro GC is equipped with back-flush-to-detector technology. This increases the analytical column lifetime because polluting or reactive components are prevented from entering the column. Moreover, by using a second detector, both fore-flush and back-flush chromatograms run in parallel, which reduces the analysis time even more. For example, a standard gas C<sub>6</sub>+ analysis is conducted every 45 seconds.

### Fast exchange of cartridges

The cartridge, which contains the GC units, can be replaced by the end user. The replacement is simple and can be done within 5 minutes. Approximately two hours after cartridge replacement, the DynamiQ-S is fully operable again.

### Stream selector

The micro GC has a built-in stream selector to connect up to three streams and/or calibration gas bottles. This integrated stream selector switches between the different gas inlets, so only one stream is introduced into the micro GC at a time. The stream selector has a double block and bleed design, so there are virtually no history or cross contamination effects between the different gas streams.

After the stream selector, the selected sample gas together with the carrier gas is led in parallel through all GC units.

In addition, an external (VICI) 16-port multi-stream selector can be connected and controlled from the software.



Exchangeable GC cartridge

### Fastloop

So that changes in the gas composition can be followed in near real-time, the DynamiQ-S micro GC features a fast-loop. For sample flow refreshment, the fastloop increases the incoming sample flow by connecting a parallel gas channel which reduces the overall sample flow resistance.

### Carrier gases

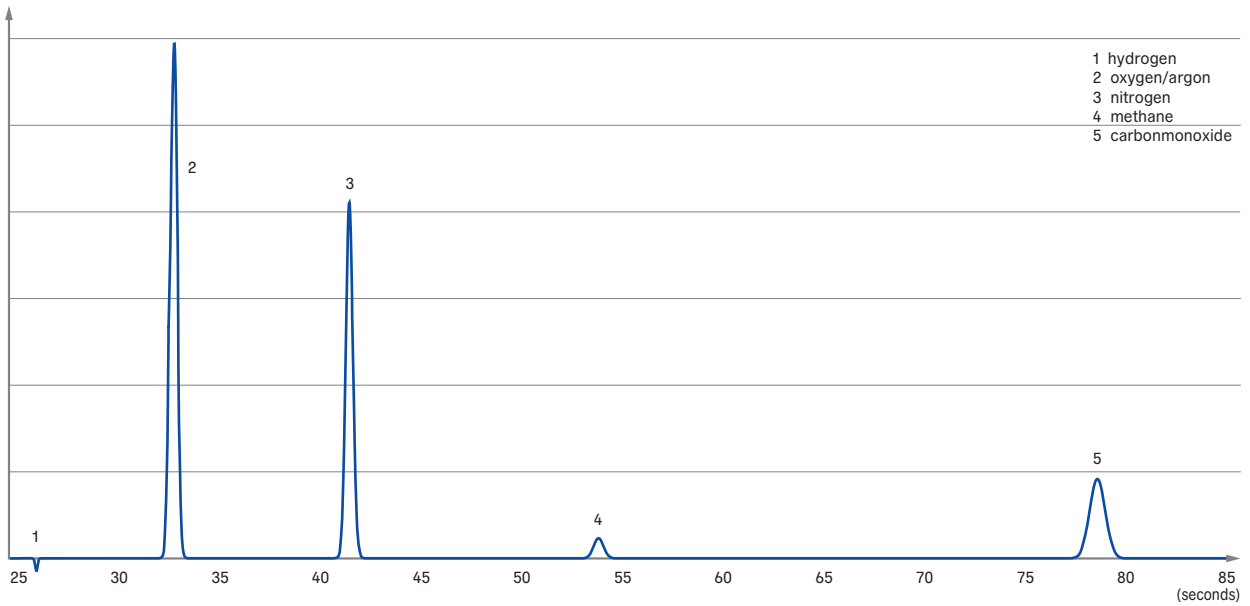
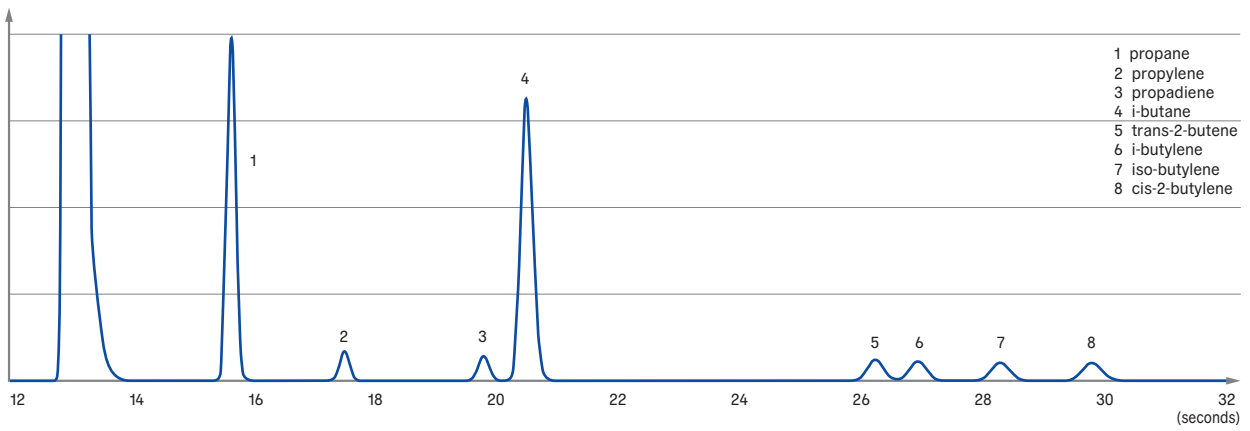
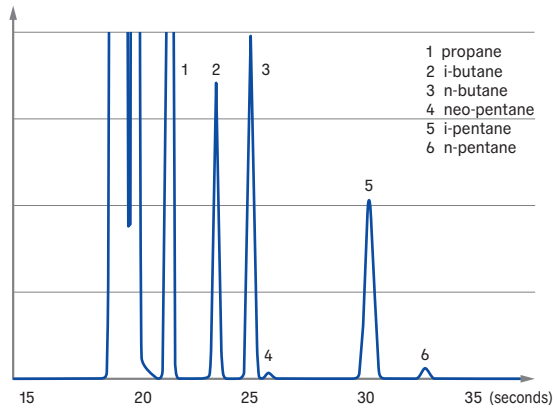
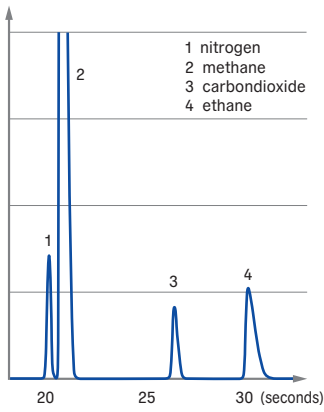
The gas port connections are 1/16" VICI Valco fittings. Typical carrier gas consumption is less than 15 ml/minute during an analysis. By applying optimal measurement settings, the use of carrier gas can be limited to one gas bottle every three years. Helium, argon, nitrogen or hydrogen can be applied as carrier gas.

Instruments with multiple GC units have two separate carrier gas inlets, to which two different carrier gases can be connected. The second carrier gas port leads to one specific GC unit. The instrument control adapts automatically, without the need for any hardware adaptation.

### Sample pump as an option

Optionally, a vacuum sample pump can be integrated into the DynamiQ-S, located inside the GC before the sample vent. It creates a continuous sample flow by drawing sample gas into the instrument, which is required for samples at atmospheric pressure. The sample pump can be combined with the stream selector and the fastloop line.





Natural gas chromatograms: C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> (top left) on P column, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> on U column (top right). Alkenes on Alumina column (mid) and H<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub> and CO on M column (bottom)



# Operation and data processing

## Stand-alone or manual operation

DynamiQ-S micro GCs are designed for continuous monitoring, so stand-alone and unattended operation is possible, though they can also be manually operated.

## Data processing and communication

The detector data is processed by an integrated processor. The autonomous running instrument generates data that is further communicated to the outside world by MODBUS or TCP protocols using RS485, RS232, Ethernet or Digital I/O ports. The DynamiQ-S can be connected to supervisory systems (such as LIMS) using these ports. Data is also stored on the GC and can be retrieved at any time.

## DynamiQ PC software for data analysis and changing settings

Upon delivery, the DynamiQ-S micro GCs are supplied with DynamiQ PC software, which can be used for setting, tuning and programming, after which it runs as a stand-alone instrument. Multiple methods can be programmed in an automatic sequence. Furthermore, this software provides facilities to analyze the collected data in detail. The communication between the DynamiQ-S and the Windows PC is over a (wired) LAN connection.

## The DynamiQ PC software is able to:

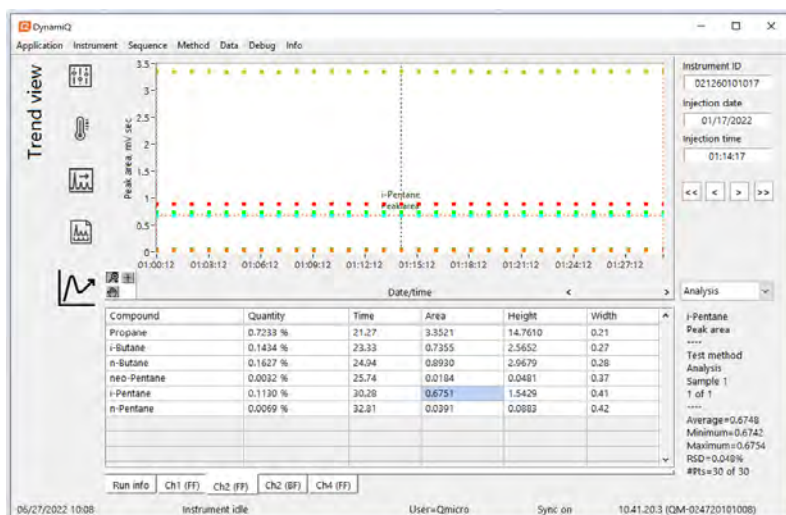
- View and change instrument and method settings
- Perform calibration or validation runs
- Perform multi-level calibration with polynomial fitting
- Perform single or multiple analysis runs
- Analyze collected data in detail
- Show trend plots of measurement data and calculated results
- Recalculate results
- Export results data (to a delimited ASCII spreadsheet) for further processing.

## Trends

The software is able to show a trend plot for the results of a series of analyses for a selected parameter, such as quantity, time, area, height, width or a status parameter of the instrument at run start.

## Historical data

All method parameters, analysis results, calibration results, calculated values and alarms can be stored with date and time stamp for at least two years, with a memory storage of up to 256 GB inside the DynamiQ-S. This facilitates problem-solving, may help to comply with legislation and enables observation of long-term trends.



DynamiQ software trend view screen sample

# Areas of application

## Applications

By selecting column and GC method combinations, the fast and accurate micro GC can be used for a wide range of applications, including:

- Natural gas C<sub>6</sub>+, C<sub>9</sub>+, C<sub>12</sub>+
- Natural gas extended with sulphur compounds, BTX
- Natural gas odorants
- Mud logging
- Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)
- Syngas
- Flare gas/flue gas
- Landfill gas
- Biogas, biomethane
- Refinery gas
- Dissolved gas analysis (DGA)/TOGA
- Fuel cell, hydrogen
- Coal mine gas
- Impurities in gases
- Industrial process gas

## Columns

Column	Components
M	Permanent gases, CH <sub>4</sub> , CO
U	Hydrocarbons C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> saturated and unsaturated, CO <sub>2</sub> , sulphur compounds
P	Hydrocarbons C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>12</sub> , sulphur compounds
W	Polar volatile solvents, light aromatics (BTX)
A	Light hydrocarbons C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> saturated and unsaturated
T	Odorants (THT) in natural gas

## Natural gas

When delivered to end users like gas-fired power plants or energy companies that supply natural gas for home heating, the gas composition needs to be known to determine the calorific value of the natural gas. For each analysis the calorific value can be calculated and reported. Extended natural gas applications, such as C<sub>9</sub>+, C<sub>12</sub>+, sulphur compounds and BTX, can be analyzed in one and the same instrument.

## Calculated values for natural gas applications\*

- Normalised components
- Unnormalised sum
- Superior and inferior heating value
- Wobbe index
- Relative density and density
- Molar mass
- Compressibility

\* According to ISO 6976:2016

## Biogas/biomethane

At any point where biogas is added to the natural gas distribution network, it needs to be assured that the biogas composition complies with minimum requirements. With the DynamiQ-S, a versatile biogas or biomethane composition analysis can be performed every 45 seconds.

## Hydrogen

Injecting sustainably produced green hydrogen into natural gas streams provides another way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As the hydrogen concentration may vary over time, near-real-time monitoring of the gas composition of this natural gas/hydrogen blend is needed to determine its calorific value. A notable advantage is that hydrogen in all concentrations > 50 ppm can be analyzed using helium as carrier gas, so a full natural gas with hydrogen analysis requires only one carrier gas. For low hydrogen concentrations < 50 ppm, argon carrier gas can be used.

In addition, for fuel cell and hydrogen generation applications, impurities in pure hydrogen can be analyzed quickly and accurately.

The compact DynamiQ-S micro GC provides a solution for all of these gas applications – and more.



# Technical specifications

## DynamiQ-S

Specifications	Values
Cycle time	15 to 60 s (typical)
Repeatability	< 0.05% RSD (typical, concentration dependent)
Calorific value calculation for natural gas	ISO 6976:2016
Operating temperature	5 to 55°C/41 to 131°F
Storage temperature	-20 to 60°C/-4 to 140°F
Moisture	5 to 95%
Power supply	20 to 28 VDC
Power consumption	20 W typical, 75 W max
Dimensions	250 × 182 × 96 mm/9.8 × 7.2 × 3.8"
Weight	< 8 kg/17.6 lb.
Gas ports	1/16" VICI Valco
Carrier gas	He, Ar, N <sub>2</sub> or H <sub>2</sub>
Carrier gas input pressure	450 ± 5% kPa
Carrier gas consumption	15 ml/minute typical
Sampling	Pressurized or atmospheric (integrated pump)
Sample pressure	10 to 200 kPa (but < column head pressure)
Sample streams	3 (option for more)
Detectors	Fore-flush and back-flush micro TCD
Detection limit	500 ppb to 100% (application dependent)
Communications supported	Ethernet, RS485, RS232, digital I/O
Protocols supported	TCP/MODBUS
Memory storage	Up to 256 GB
Certifications	CE
Conducted emission, test with a LISN	EN 55011 (2009) + A1 (2010)
Radiated emission up to 1 GHz (SAC)	EN 55011 (2009) + A1 (2010)
ESD	EN-IEC 61000-4-2 (2009)
Radiated immunity	EN-IEC 61000-4-3 (2006) + A1 (2008) + A2 (2010)
EFT	EN-IEC 61000-4-4 (2012)
Surge	EN-IEC 61000-4-5 (2014)
Conducted immunity	EN-IEC 61000-4-6 (2014)
Power frequency magnetic field	EN-IEC 61000-4-8 (2010)

## Contact

Qmicro by Sensirion · Neptunusstraat 21 · 7521 WC · Enschede · The Netherlands · Phone: +31 88 6760 700  
info@qmicro.com · www.qmicro.com