

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

How to Calculate a Chloride Equivalent for the Total Chlorine Standard

The hydrogen chloride (HCl) and chlorine gas (Cl₂) standard – also known as the total chlorine standard – of §§63.1203, 63.1204, and 63.1205 is expressed in terms of “parts per million by volume, combined emissions, expressed as hydrochloric acid equivalents, dry basis and corrected to 7 percent oxygen.” This document shows how to calculate a chloride (Cl⁽⁻⁾) equivalent for the total chlorine standard.

Analytical results using the Method 26 sampling train are often reported in mg/dscm HCl and Cl₂. **Steps 1 and 2** can be used to convert stack gas concentrations from mg/dscm to a Cl⁽⁻⁾ equivalent in ppmv assuming the species behaves as an ideal gas.

Step 1: Convert Method 26 Results from mg/dscm to ppmv

Separately convert the HCl and Cl₂ results to ppmv using either Equation 1 or the summary table.

Assumptions:

- Gas at standard conditions (temperature of 20°C, and pressure of 1 atm)
- Ideal gas molecular volume is 22.4 L/mol at 0°C and 1 atm
- Stack gas concentration of species being corrected to 7% oxygen

Equation 1:

$$(A \text{ ppmv}) = \frac{\left(B \frac{\text{mg}}{\text{dscm}} \right) \times \left(22.4 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{mol}} \right) \times \left(\frac{293 \text{ K}}{273 \text{ K}} \right) \times \left(1 \times 10^6 \text{ ppmv} \right)}{\left(M \frac{\text{g}}{\text{mol}} \right) \times \left(1000 \frac{\text{L}}{\text{dscm}} \right) \times \left(1000 \frac{\text{mg}}{\text{g}} \right)}$$

Where:

M = molecular weight of species. For example, the molecular weight of HCl is 36.5 g/mol; Cl₂ is 70.9 g/mol; and Cl⁽⁻⁾ is 35.5 g/mol.

A = concentration in ppmv (at 7% oxygen)

B = concentration in mg/dscm (at 7% oxygen)

Summary Table of Conversion Factors (using Equation 1):

Species (mg/dscm)	To Convert from mg/dscm to ppmv, Multiply by
HCl	0.659
Cl ₂	0.339
Cl ⁽⁻⁾	0.677

Step 2: Calculate Total Chlorine Emissions as a Chloride Equivalent

Convert the HCl and Cl₂ results from Step 1 to a Cl⁽⁻⁾ equivalent using Equation 2

Equation 2:

$$\text{Cl}^{(-)} \text{ Equivalent (ppmv)} = \text{HCl (ppmv)} + [2 \times \text{Cl}_2 \text{ (ppmv)}]$$

Alternative Calculation of a Cl⁽⁻⁾ Equivalent

Convert Method 26 analytical results from mg/dscm to a Cl⁽⁻⁾ equivalent in ppmv using Equation 3.

Equation 3:

$$\text{Cl}^{(-)} \text{ Equivalent (ppmv)} = \frac{[[\text{HCl (mg/dscm)} \times (35.5/36.5)] + \text{Cl}_2 \text{ (mg/dscm)}] \times (0.677 \text{ ppmv / mg/dscm})}{\text{ppmv / mg/dscm}}$$

Sample Calculation

What is the total chlorine emissions on a Cl⁽⁻⁾ equivalent basis if HCl is 100 mg/dscm and Cl₂ is 10 mg/dscm? Both measurements are at 7% oxygen.

Step 1: Convert to ppmv

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HCl (ppmv)} &= (100 \text{ mg/dscm}) \times (0.659 \text{ ppmv / mg/dscm}) = 65.9 \text{ ppmv} \\ \text{Cl}_2 \text{ (ppmv)} &= (10 \text{ mg/dscm}) \times (0.339 \text{ ppmv / mg/dscm}) = 3.4 \text{ ppmv} \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Convert to a Cl⁽⁻⁾ equivalent

$$\text{Cl}^{(-)} \text{ Equivalent (ppmv)} = 65.9 \text{ ppmv} + (2) \times (3.4 \text{ ppmv}) = 73 \text{ ppmv}$$

Or, alternatively, using Equation 3:

$$\text{Cl}^{(-)} \text{ Equivalent (ppmv)} = \frac{[[(100 \text{ mg/dscm}) \times (35.5 \text{ g/mol} / 36.5 \text{ g/mol})] + 10 \text{ mg/dscm}] \times (0.677 \text{ ppmv / mg/dscm})}{(0.677 \text{ ppmv / mg/dscm})} = 73 \text{ ppmv}$$