HCL Dynamic Spiking Protocol

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LAFAYETTE, IN

August, 2006
Revision 2.0
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1 REVISION HISTORY

1.1 REVISION 1.0

1.2 REVISION 2.0
This revision is an update of the original Dynamic Spiking protocol, December 2005. The following are key updates in revision 2.0:

1. Recommendation that all HCL QA gases be certified with a minimum tolerance of 5%

2. Discussion for the use of quantitative introduction of the HCL calibration gas and subsequent total flow measurement as method for determining the reference HCL concentration during each test run.

3. Updated the dynamic spiking procedure description for easier flow of information

4. Updated the equations to include percent relative standard deviation and the calculation for the reference HCL concentration when using quantitative introduction of the HCL calibration gas with subsequent total flow measurement.
2 OVERVIEW

Dynamic Spiking is a procedure to establish the accuracy, precision, and bias of a monitoring system. During the dynamic spiking procedure, a certified calibration gas (±5%) is spiked into the monitoring system while the system is sampling flue gas. It is important that the spiked calibration gas flow through the entire sampling system. The target ratio of flue gas to HCL calibration gas is 9:1, with a minimum requirement of 1:1. The HCL calibration gas is spiked in three ranges (low, mid, high) through the range of HCL detector. A minimum of 30, one minute averaged data points should be collected for each of the three test runs. It is recommended that the percent relative standard deviation of the data set, for each test level, be less than or equal to 20%.

If the flue gas has significant amounts of HCL present, the data may be corrected for the baseline HCL concentration. This is performed by collecting at least 10, one minute average HCL data points prior to each test run. The average of the ten baseline HCL values will be used to compensate the subsequent test run data for background HCL concentrations. It is important that the control device be running at steady state; alleviating large fluctuations in the background HCL concentrations.

The HCL CEMS will provide the measured HCL values. These values are compared, using linear regression, to the known or spiked HCL concentrations. There are two methods for calculating the known HCL concentrations: (1) Use of an element of opportunity and (2) Quantitative introduction of the HCL calibration gas with total flow through the system.

An element of opportunity can be any element normally present, in steady concentrations, in the flue gas stream. Examples are O2, CO, NOx, SO2, CO2, and moisture. Total flow through the system is also an example of an element of opportunity.

The element of opportunity is measured during the baseline data collection, prior to the test run. The average value during this baseline collection period is used to establish the baseline concentration, or flow value, without any spiking of the calibration gas.

The element of opportunity is measured during each test run while the HCL calibration gas is being spiked. The elements of opportunity values, collected during each test run are averaged. Knowing the concentration of the HCL calibration gas, and the dilution of the element of opportunity due to the spiking, the known value of the HCL calibration gas in the measurement stream can be calculated.

The known value of the spiked HCL calibration gas in the measurement stream can also be calculated by quantitatively introducing the HCL calibration gas, and, measuring the total flow through the system. In this case, the HCL calibration gas concentration, the flow rate of spiked HCL calibration gas into the measurement stream, and the total flow through the system are used to calculate the known value of the spiked calibration gas.

As with the HCL CEMS data sets, it is recommended that the percent relative standard deviation for the element of opportunity data sets be less than or equal to 20%.

Once the data is collected, linear regression is performed using the known HCL spike values and the correlating HCL CEMS measured values. Criteria for the HCL dynamic spiking are:

1. The correlation coefficient $\rho$ must be greater than or equal to 0.90.
2. The slope of the regression line must be $1.0 \pm 0.15$. 


3. The intercept, of the regression line, must be less than or equal to 15% of the instrument span.

The HCL CEMS must meet the correlation criteria. If either the slope and/or intercept criteria are not met, a bias may be applied to the HCL CEMS one minute value. Performance Specification Z: Specifications and Test Procedures for the HCL Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems at Stationary Sources should be as a reference document for dynamic spiking requirements and calculations.
3 DEFINITIONS

**Bias:** The difference between the reference value and the measured value.

**Calibration Drift:** The difference in the CEMS output readings from the established reference value after a stated period of operation during which no unscheduled maintenance or adjustment took place.

**Continuous Emission Monitoring System:** means the total equipment required for the determination of a gas concentration or emission rate. The sample interface, pollutant analyzer, diluent analyzer, and data recorder are the major subsystems of the CEMS.

**Correlation Coefficient:** determines the extent of a linear relationship between two fields over a given period of time.

**Data Recorder:** The portion of the CEMS that provides a record of analyzer output, flags which indicate normal operation, and flags indicating abnormal operation. The data recorder may record other pertinent data such as effluent flow rates, and various instrument temperatures.

**Dynamic Spiking:** a procedure used to document the accuracy, precision, and bias of the monitoring system by quantitatively spiking a certified gas into the pollutant gas stream.

**Element of Opportunity:** Any element, present in the flue gas matrix (or total flow) that has little fluctuation and can be used to determine the reference HCL concentration during the dynamic spiking test runs.

**Gas Chromatograph:** An analytical instrument which uses a carrier gas to transport gas/vapor phase samples to a solid matrix for separation, and subsequent detection by a analyte specific detector.

**Gas manifold:** Individual, or series of flow controllers that allow controlled flow of a gas. Calibrated flow controllers can be used to quantitatively control the flow of gases.
**Instrument Measurement Range:** The range of HCl concentrations the instrument can reliably measure from the lowest concentration to the highest.

**Intercept:** value of the Y variable when the X variable is equal to zero.

**Laminar Flow Element:** A device used to measure the flow gas through a system by measuring the pressure drop of the gas over a restriction (forces parallel, or laminar flow).

**Linear Regression:** a methodology used to find a formula that can be used to relate two variables that are linearly related.

**Response Time:** The time interval between the start of a step change in the system input and when the pollutant analyzer output reached 95% of the final value.

**Sample Interface:** The portion of the CEMS used for one or more of the following: sample acquisition, sample transport, sample conditioning, or protection of the monitor from the effects of stack gas.

**Slope:** The rate of change of Y relative to the change in X.

**Upscale drift:** means the absolute difference between a high-level calibration gas and the monitor response, in units of the applicable standard.

**Zero drift:** means the absolute difference between a high-level calibration gas and the monitor response, in units of the applicable standard.


4 EQUIPMENT

The following list contains typical equipment required to perform the HCL dynamic spiking.

1. HCL CEMS

2. Reference Analyzer(s) for the element of opportunity (examples are NOx, SO2, CO, CO2, O2)

3. Flow Measurement Systems
   a. Laminar flow element
   b. Gas chromatograph (for dilution flow with a hydrocarbon)

4. Calibration Equipment
   a. Bubble Flow meter, manometer, or equivalent for primary flow calibration
   b. Certified HCL Calibration gas for spiking
   c. HCL calibration gases for zero and upscale drift check of the HCL CEMS
   d. Calibration gas for the element(s) of opportunity CEMS calibration
   e. Hydrocarbon gas for flow measurement via dilution sampling

5. Quantitative gas manifold, or equivalent, for introduction of the HCL calibration gas

6. Quantitative gas manifold, or equivalent, for the introduction of the hydrocarbon for dilution flow (if used)

7. Various fittings and tubing
5 EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION AND STANDARDS

Prior to performing the HCL dynamic spiking, it is important that all equipment and/or analyzers are calibrated. This section provides guidance on the calibration requirements for all equipment used during the HCL dynamic spiking procedure.

5.1 HCL CEMS

Prior to performing the dynamic spiking procedure, the HCL CEMS must pass the QA requirements specified in performance specification Z: Specifications and Test Procedures For HCL Continuous Emission Monitoring Systems at Stationary Sources. Typically, this would include passing the daily zero and upscale calibration drift check, and for annual audits passing both the zero and upscale drift check as well as a seven day drift test. All calibration gases must be certified gases, with a recommended tolerance not to exceed +/- 5%.

5.2 ELEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY CEMS

The monitoring system used to measure the element(s) of opportunity, other than total flow, must pass a calibration directly prior to use. After dynamic spiking run, the zero and upscale calibration drift are checked. The drift requirement, for both zero and upscale, is 3% of the reference value, unless stated otherwise in the applicable reference method. If either the zero or upscale calibration check fails the drift limit after a dynamic spiking run, the run must be repeated.

5.3 FLOW MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

Total flow may be used as an element of opportunity, or, as part of measuring the quantitative introduction of the HCL calibration gas for the dynamic spiking tests. There are several methods that can be used to provide a total flow measurement. This protocol outlines two approaches, laminar flow element and flow by dilution. Other total flow measurement systems can be used; however, specific protocol describing the methodology must be used.

5.3.1 Laminar flow element

Prior to the dynamic spiking procedure, the laminar flow element is calibrated against a primary flow standard, such as a bubble flow meter. The calibration must include at least three points throughout the expected measurement range. After each dynamic spiking test run, the calibration drift is checked at each of the three points. The laminar flow element must be re-calibrated if any of the drift check points exceed 10% of the expected value (established during the pre-test calibration).
5.3.2 Flow by dilution

Flow by dilution is a method where a known concentration of gas is quantitatively introduced to the flue gas stream and measured downstream by a calibrated instrument. For example, a known concentration of propane can be quantitatively introduced to the flue gas stream and the diluted propane measured downstream.

Prior to the dynamic spiking procedure, the gas chromatograph is calibrated, using at least four points through the expected measurement range. After the dynamic spiking procedure is complete, the gas chromatograph is checked for bias at each of the four calibration levels. The bias should be less than 5% of the expected value for each point. Method 18 provides guidance for the calibration procedure and requirements.

Prior to the dynamic spiking procedure, the gas manifold (used to quantitatively introduce propane, or similar hydrocarbon), which is typically a mass flow controller, is calibrated to a primary standard. After each test run, the gas manifold is checked for drift, and adjusted if the drift exceeds 10% of the expected value (calibrated value prior to dynamic spiking procedure). Method 205 provides guidance for this procedure.

5.4 GAS MANIFOLD

HCL may be quantitatively introduced into the flue gas stream, and when used in conjunction with a total flow measurement, can provide the reference HCL spiking concentrations for each dynamic spiking run.

Prior to the dynamic spiking procedure, the gas manifold (used to quantitatively introduce HCL), which is typically a mass flow controller, is calibrated to a primary standard. After each test run, the gas manifold is checked for drift, and adjusted if the drift exceeds 10% of the expected value (calibrated value prior to dynamic spiking procedure). Method 205 provides guidance for this procedure.

5.5 HCL CALIBRATION GAS FOR DYNAMIC SPIKING

The HCL calibration gas used for dynamic spiking must be a certified gas with a tolerance less than or equal to 5%.
6 DYNAMIC SPIKING RANGE

The flue gas stream must be spiked at a minimum of three separate levels (low, mid, high) throughout the range of the HCL CEMS. The low level should be between 0 – 50%, the mid range should be between 25 – 75%, and the high range should be between 50 – 100% of the span of the instrument. The dynamic spiked HCL concentrations can only be used for one range (Table 1).

7 TYPICAL DYNAMIC SPIKING SET-UP

Figure 1. Typical Dynamic Spiking Apparatus
8 DYNAMIC SPIKING PROCEDURE

This section describes the procedure used to perform HCL dynamic spiking. Prior to testing, it is important that all analyzers are calibrated according to section 6 of this document. In addition, the control device should be at a steady state (small fluctuations of HCL or elements of opportunity).

8.1 COLLECTION OF BASELINE DATA

The baseline data will be used to compensate the measured HCl, during the dynamic spiking run, for background concentrations of HCL which may be present during normal operations. It is important to collect all element of opportunity data as well as HCL background data during the baseline collection period.

1. Collect a minimum of ten, 1 minute averaged HCL data points prior to each dynamic spiking test run.

2. Collect ten, 1 minute averaged data points for the element(s) of opportunity to be used for calculating the reference HCL concentration. The element of opportunity data set is collected simultaneous to the HCL baseline data, and must be collected prior to each dynamic spiking test run.

3. If using total flow, collect a minimum of one flow reading during the baseline data collection.

4. Prior to beginning the dynamic spike, ensure that all baseline data (HCL, element of opportunity, flow) does not exhibit large fluctuations in concentration (steady state). If large fluctuations exist, the baseline data collection procedure must be repeated.

8.2 COLLECTION OF TEST DATA

The HCL CEMS must be tested at a minimum of three levels through the measurement range of the instrument (low, mid, high), Table 1. Prior to each dynamic spiking test run, it is important that the appropriate baseline data is collected (section 7.1) and that all equipment is calibrated and appropriate bias checks are performed (section 6).

1. Introduce the HCL calibration gas to the measurement system and allow the HCL CEMS values to reach a steady state. This may take up to 15 minutes.
2. Collect a minimum of 30, one minute average HCL data points.

3. Collect a minimum of 30, one minute average element(s) of opportunity data points.

4. If using total flow through the system, collect at least five data points during the dynamic spiking test run.

5. If using quantitative introduction of the HCL calibration gas, collect at least five data points for the calibration gas flow rate into the system during the dynamic spiking test run.

6. Before stopping the dynamic spiking test run, ensure that the data sets are complete. It is recommended that the percent standard deviation, for all data sets, be less than or equal to 20%.

7. Stop the HCL calibration gas dynamic spiking and allow the system to return to baseline conditions.

8. Perform a bias check for the element of opportunity reference CEMS, the flow measurement system, and the gas manifold for the HCL calibration gas and hydrocarbon (if dilution flow is used to calculate the reference HCL concentration). Section 6 provides guidance for the bias checks.

9. Repeat the baseline data collection, and the dynamic spiking data collection, for subsequent HCL test levels.

10. If dilution flow is used to calculate the HCl reference values, after the HCL dynamic spiking test runs are complete, perform a bias check of the dilution analyzer.

### 8.3 DATA CALCULATIONS

This section provides the calculations required to determine the accuracy, precision, and bias of the HCL CEMS.

#### 8.3.1 Baseline data

##### 8.3.1.1 HCL CEMS data

The baseline HCL concentration is measured prior to each dynamic spiking run. For each baseline HCL data set, calculate the average, in ppm, using equation 1.
Calculate the arithmetic mean of a data set as follows:

\[ \bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i \]  \hspace{1cm} (Equation 1)

where:

\( \bar{x} \) = Arithmetic mean

\( n \) = Number of data points

\( x_i \) = Value of each data point

8.3.1.2 Element of Opportunity Data

The element of opportunity data set is acquired prior to each dynamic spiking test run, simultaneous to the baseline HCL concentration data set. For each element of opportunity, calculate the average value using equation 1.

8.3.1.3 Flow via dilution

When using dilution of a measured analyte (such as a hydrocarbon with subsequent GC measurement) as an indicator of total flow, calculate the total flow, in liters per minute using equation 2.

Calculate the total flow as follows:

\[ T_{\text{flow}} = \frac{(\text{Analyte} - \text{spike}) \times T_{\text{flow}}}{(\text{Analyte} - \text{measured})} \]  \hspace{1cm} (Equation 2)

\( T_{\text{flow}} \) = Total flow through the system in lpm

\( \text{Analyte-Spike} \) = Concentration of Spiked Analyte (ppm)

\( \text{Analyte-measured} \) = Measurement, downstream, of spiked Analyte (ppm)

Calculate the average flow value, for the data set, using equation 1.
8.3.2 Dynamic Spiking Test run data

8.3.2.1 HCL CEMS data

For each dynamic spiking test run, calculate the average and percent relative standard deviation of the data set using equations 1 and 3, respectively.

Calculate the percent standard deviation as follows:

\[
PRS_d = \left[ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i^2 - \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_i}{n} \right)^2}{n-1} \right]^{1/2}
\]

(Equation 3)

Where:

\[
PRS_d = \text{Percent Relative Standard Deviation of the data set}
\]

\[
\bar{x} = \text{Arithmetic mean}
\]

8.3.2.2 Element of Opportunity data

For each dynamic spiking test run, calculate the average and percent relative standard deviation of the data set using equations 1 and 3, respectively. If using total flow as a means to determine the reference HCL calibration gas concentration, use equation 2 to calculate the total flow prior to determining the average and percent relative standard deviation of the data set.
8.3.3 Reference HCL concentration calculations

8.3.3.1 Element of opportunity to calculate reference HCL concentration

Equation 4 is used to calculate the reference HCL concentration for a given dynamic spiking test run.

\[
\text{HCl}_\text{ref} = 1 - \frac{\text{Opp}-\text{post}_{\text{avg}}}{\text{Opp}-\text{pre}_{\text{avg}}} \times \text{CalGas} + \text{BaselineHCl} \quad (\text{Equation 4})
\]

where:

- \(\text{Opp-post}_{\text{avg}}\) = average reference element of opportunity value during dynamic spiking test run
- \(\text{Opp-pre}_{\text{avg}}\) = average reference element of opportunity value during baseline test run
- CalGas = HCl calibration gas concentration
- Baseline HCl = CEMS HCl average baseline value

8.3.3.2 Quantitative HCL calibration gas introduction and total flow to calculate reference HCL concentration

When using the quantitative introduction of calibration gas and total system flow to calculation the reference HCL concentration for a given dynamic spiking test run, use equation 5. Equation 2 is used to calculate the total system flow.

\[
\text{HCl}_\text{ref} = \frac{\text{Cflow}_{\text{avg}}}{\text{Tflow}_{\text{avg}}} \times \text{CalGas} + \text{BaselineHCl} \quad (\text{Equation 5})
\]

Where:

- \(\text{HCl}_\text{ref}\) = Reference HCl value for run “X”
- \(\text{Cflow}\) = Average calibration HCL gas flow rate into system (lpm)
Tflow = Average Total System Flow during run (lpm)

CalGas = HCl calibration gas concentration

Baseline HCl = CEMS HCl average baseline value

### 8.3.4 Linear Regression

Linear regression is used to calculate the accuracy, precision, and bias of the HCL CEMS. For each dynamic spiking test run, plot the HCL CEMS reference value, Xaxis, versus the HCL measured value, Y axis. Determine the correlation coefficient (r), the slope, and the intercept using equations 6-9.

\[
\hat{y} = b_0 + b_1 x
\]  \hspace{1cm} \text{(Equation 6)}

where:

\[ b_0 = \text{The y intercept} \]

\[ b_1 = \text{The slope} \]

The intercept is calculated according to the following equation:

\[
b_0 = \bar{y} - b_1 \bar{x}
\]  \hspace{1cm} \text{(Equation 7)}

where:

\[
\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i
\]

\[
\bar{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i
\]

The slope of the line is calculated according to equation below:
The linear correlation coefficient is calculated according to the following equation.

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y}) \\
\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \bar{x})^2
\]

(Equation 8)

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})^2 \\
\sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \bar{y})^2
\]

(Equation 9)

8.4 CRITERIA FOR ACCEPTANCE

The criteria for the HCl dynamic spiking is:

- The correlation coefficient, \( r \), must be greater than or equal to 0.90
- The slope must be 1.0, +/- 0.15
- The Intercept must be equal to or less than 15% of the instrument span.

At a minimum, the data set must meet the correlation coefficient. If this is not met, the dynamic spiking procedure must be repeated until the correlation coefficient criteria are met. If the HCl CEMS has met the correlation coefficient requirement, but does not meet either the slope, or intercept criteria, a bias exists and a correction factor must be applied to the HCl CEMS for data collection. The equations to determine the corrected value are provided in Section 8.5. The correction factor must be applied to the HCl CEMS one-minute average data until a new dynamic spiking procedure indicates the specific bias no longer exists, or, a different correction factor (bias) is indicated.
8.5 BIAS CORRECTION

If the HCl CEMS fails to meet both the slope and intercept criteria, the following correction factor must be applied to the one-minute average HCl data:

\[ C^c = \frac{y_i - b_0}{b_1} \]  

(Equation 10)

Where:

- \( C^c \) = corrected CEMS HCL concentration
- \( y_i \) = CEMS reported HCL concentration
- \( b_0 \) = the intercept of the least squares linear regression line
- \( b_1 \) = the slope of the least squares linear regression line

b). If the HCl CEMS fails to meet the slope criteria, but meets the intercept criteria, the following correction factor must be applied to the one-minute average HCl data:

\[ C^c = \frac{y_i}{b_1} \]  

(Equation 11)

c). If the HCl CEMS fails to meet the intercept criteria, but meets the slope criteria, the following correction factor must be applied to the one-minute average HCl data:

\[ C^c = y_i - b_0 \]  

(Equation 12)
9 TABLES

Table 1. Ongoing Quality Assurance/Quality Control Calibration Gas Ranges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Zero-level</th>
<th>Mid-Level</th>
<th>High-Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Calibration Drift</td>
<td>% of Span</td>
<td>0-30</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>50-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolute Calibration Audit</td>
<td>% of Span</td>
<td>0-29</td>
<td>30-49</td>
<td>50-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dynamic Spiking</td>
<td>% of Span</td>
<td>0-50</td>
<td>25-75</td>
<td>50-100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\text{A copy of the supplier’s certificate of analysis must be provided for each gas cylinder. Calibration gases do not need to be Protocol 1 gases. It is recommended that the calibration gases, for all QA, have a minimum tolerance of 5%.}\)
10 REFERENCES


11 APPENDICES