

***PROCEDURE FOR CONVERSION OF  
natural gas volume to  
standardized conditions  
for metering points without corrector***

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# Introduction

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## ➤ *Reasons for conversion*

- *Physical properties of gas*
- *Energy value of 1m<sup>3</sup> depends on the pressure, temperature, and calorific value*
- *Price specified per 1m<sup>3</sup> for gas under standard conditions and referent calorific value*

## ➤ *Goals*

- *Protection of market participants*
- *Comparability of data*
- *More accurate natural gas balance*
- *More precise data on natural gas losses*

# Gas condition

Equation for condition of *real* gas

$$pV = n ZRT$$

$p$  – pressure,

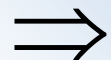
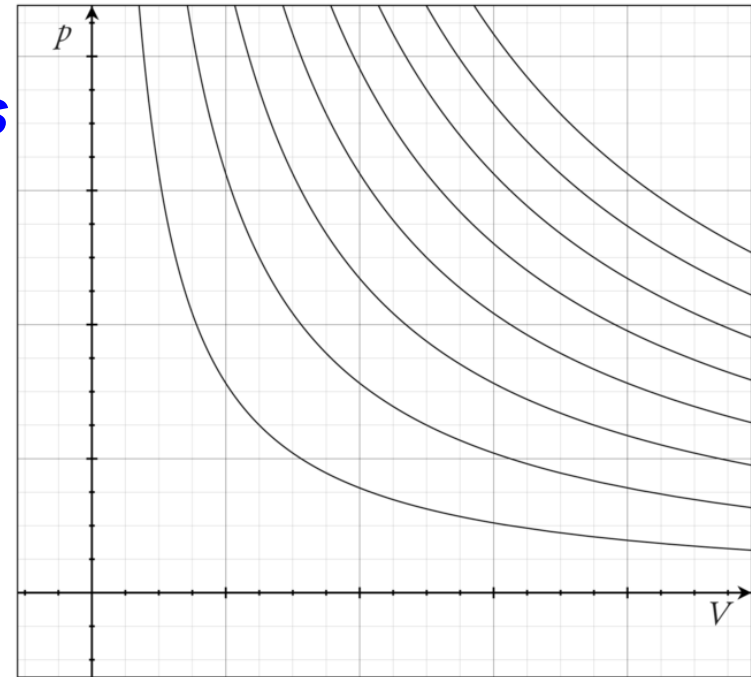
$V$  – volume (quantity),

$n$  – number of mol,

$R$  – universal gas constant,

$T$  – absolute temperature (K)

$Z$  – compressibility factor,  $Z = f(p, T)$



Volume measured

**must be converted to the same condition parameters**  
at all system points from entrance into the country to final  
customers

# Characteristic gas conditions

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➤ **Operating** – *real operating pressure and temperature*

➤ **Referent condition**

1. **Standard condition** – „S“,

*$T = 288,15 \text{ K (15 °C)}$  and  $p = 1,01325 \text{ bar}$*

2. **Normal condition** – „n“,

*$T = 273,15 \text{ K (0 °C)}$  and  $p = 1,01325 \text{ bar}$*

# Conversion of gas volume to standard condition (1)

$$V_s = V_r \cdot \frac{288,15}{1,01325} \cdot \frac{P_m + P_{atm}}{T_r} \cdot \frac{1}{Z}$$

<b><i>V<sub>s</sub></i></b>	–	Converted gas volume (m <sup>3</sup> ) - <b>STANDARD</b> conditions
<b><i>V<sub>r</sub></i></b>	–	Read gas volume(m <sup>3</sup> ) - <b>OPERATING</b> conditions
<b><i>P<sub>m</sub></i></b>	–	Connection pressure (bar) - <b>OPERATING</b> conditions
<b><i>P<sub>atm</sub></i></b>	–	Atmospheric pressure(bar) - <b>OPERATING</b> conditions
<b><i>P<sub>s</sub></i></b>	–	Pressure under <b>STANDARD</b> conditions, 1,01325 (bar)
<b><i>T<sub>s</sub></i></b>	–	Temperature under <b>STANDARD</b> conditions, 288,15 K (15 °C)
<b><i>T<sub>r</sub></i></b>	–	<b>OPERATING</b> temperature (273,15 + T <sub>gas</sub> in °C) (K)
<b><i>Z</i></b>	–	Gas compressibility factor

# Conversion of gas volume to standard condition (2)

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## **Gas volume corrector by pressure and temperature –**

Device for automatic conversion of volumetric gas flow under operating conditions to standard conditions

Conversion formulae are defined by:

**The Rulebook on Metrological Conditions for Volumetric Gas Flow Correctors – MUS.Z-19/1, 1985, Official Gazette of SFRJ No. 9/1985**

No corrector available, conversion by calculation according to the same formulae

Corrector by temperature available – no conversion by calculation

The accuracy of operating condition parameters is the problem

# Charging natural gas

- *For gas as an energy carrier, quantity and calorific value are important*
- *Price 1m<sup>3</sup> – in methodologies and tariff systems for:*
  - *Standard gas condition and*
  - *Referential lower calorific value of gas of 33.338,35 kJ/m<sup>3</sup>*
- *To invoice natural gas, the volumetric gas flow must be converted first to*
  - *Standard condition and*
  - *Referential lower calorific value of gas*



# Calorific value of gas (GCV)

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## ➤ **Real**

- *varies*
- *is determined periodically based on chemical content (quality) chromatographic analysis*
- *average (weighted) value is calculated for a specific period, taking into account quantities to which the GCV relates*

## ➤ **Referential – for invoicing**

*To make the data on quantities comparable*

# Conversion of “standard” to chargeable gas volume

$$V_o = V_s \cdot \frac{H_{pd}}{H_r} \quad (\text{m}^3)$$

<b><math>V_o</math></b>	–	<b>Chargeable volume; Gas volume converted to referential lower GCV (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>
<b><math>V_s</math></b>	–	<b>Natural gas volume under standard conditions (<math>\text{m}^3</math>)</b>
<b><math>H_{pd}</math></b>	–	<b>Average lower GCV in an observed period (<math>\text{kJ}/\text{m}^3</math>)</b>
<b><math>H_r</math></b>	–	<b>Referential lower GCV (<math>\text{kJ}/\text{m}^3</math>) actual: 33.338,35 <math>\text{kJ}/\text{m}^3</math> – agreed on the basis of mean lower calorific value of domestic gas in the seventies</b>

Conversion to referent calorific value is always done by **CALCULATION**

# Average lower calorific value of gas

$$H_{pd} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n H_i \cdot V_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n V_i} \quad (\text{kJ/m}^3)$$

<b><i>H<sub>pd</sub></i></b>	–	<b><i>Average lower GCV (kJ/m<sup>3</sup>) for the invoicing period</i></b>
<b><i>n</i></b>	–	<b><i>Number of metering during the invoicing period</i></b>
<b><i>i</i></b>	–	<b><i>i</i> - metering, on the same day for <i>H<sub>i</sub></i> and <i>V<sub>i</sub></i></b>
<b><i>H<sub>i</sub></i></b>	–	<b><i>Measured lower GCV (kJ/m<sup>3</sup>) – deemed to be the same on all days until next sampling</i></b>
<b><i>V<sub>i</sub></i></b>	–	<b><i>Volume of gas flow between two metering (m<sup>3</sup>)</i></b>

**H<sub>pd</sub> determined by Srbijagas**

# Analysis of energy entities' practice before tariff systems implementation (1)

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## 1. *Conversion to referential condition*

### a) *not implemented*

- *if the gas delivery via meter without corrector is negligible*

- *if not negligible, expected effects of conversion are :*

- *Integrated into the price (most of the energy entities)*
- *Assigned to losses*

*Not correct, and with separation of accounts by activities*

*not feasible – costs of loss are born by Operator and not supplier*

### b) *Implemented, to varying degrees*

- *Operating pressure and temperature differently determined*
- *Conversion by temperature also with temperature compensator installed - periodically*

# Analysis of energy entities' practice before tariff systems implementation (2)

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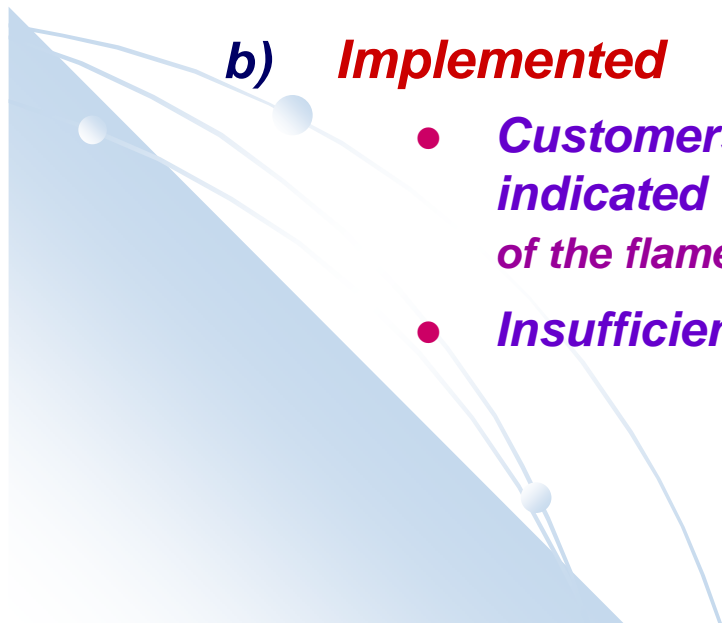
## 2. Conversion to referential lower calorific value

### a) **not implemented**

- *expected conversion effect were integrated into the price*
- *some distributors with high share of domestic gas do not convert by calorific value – the result is unjustified price increase*

### b) **Implemented**

- *Customers/users have doubts about the lower GCV indicated on the bill (e.g. on the basis a subjective assessment of the flame intensity)*
- *Insufficiently transparent*



# Problems identified

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- ***Area insufficiently regulated***
- ***Different practice of energy entities***
- ***Calculations not transparent enough***
- ***Objective difficulties with determining operating condition parameters***
- ***Referential calorific value is low – for more than 80% of gas, the quantity increases by approx. +2% on the basis of GCV***

# Regulating the area

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## *Responsible stakeholders*

- *Energy Agency of the Republic of Serbia*
- *Ministry of Mining and Energy*
- *Energy entities (EE) within the gas sector*

## *Phases*

- *Problem analysis – Agency and EE*
- *Draft conversion procedure - Agency and EE*
- *Discussions of professionals*
- *Amendments to documents – Ministry, Agency and EE*

# Agency's participation (1)

*In line with its legal jurisdictions specified in*

*Article 15 of the Energy Law:*

- *Collects and processes data on energy entities associated with conducting energy activities*
- *Monitors compliance with methodologies and tariff systems*
- *Monitors behavior of energy entities with regard to protection of customers/system users interests*
- *Processes customers/ system users invoice-related complaints in the context of tariff system implementation*
- *Monitors the behavior of energy entities with regard to separation of accounts by activities*



# Agency's participation (2)

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## ***Analysis:***

- ***behavior of energy entities with regard to conversion of read to chargeable parameters of gas volume***
- ***experience of other countries***
- ***data availability***

## ***Proposal of :***

- ***conversion method - formulae***
- ***method of gathering data***
- ***which referential lower GCV to choose***

# Goals in choosing the conversion method (1)

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- **Equal position of market participants**
  - *Mandatory conversion for all metering points without corrector*
  - *The same method of determining operating parameters for all energy entities*
- **Simplicity of application *with sufficient accuracy*\***

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**\* - What does sufficient accuracy mean:**

1. *The final result of metering and calculation is as accurate as the least accurate element in the procedure*
2. *When deciding which approximation method to use and when value averaging is done, one should not insist on a precision level that is higher than the requested precision of the metering equipment*

# Goals in choosing the conversion method(2)

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- ***Invoicing transparency***
  - ***Invoice content***
  - ***Publication of relevant data on the energy entities' and agency's website***
- ***Minimization of differences between read and chargeable quantities***
  - ***Adequate selection of referential values***
  - ***Averaging of effects at the annual level***
- ***More accurate gas balance in the country and comparable data with international statistics***

# Determining parameters of gas operating condition (1)

**$P_m$**  - connection pressure

Simplified for households (and the like)

Germany, Austria, Italy, Croatia:  $P_m = 22$  mbar

Technical norms for interior gas installations:

nominal connection pressure for home gas appliances - 20 mbar,

allowed total pressure drop within LP area (up to 100 mbar) is 2,6 mbar;

*Agency's suggestion*

**Calculation  $P_m = 22$  mbar**

for  $18 \text{ mbar} \leq P_m \leq 24 \text{ mbar}$

16 distribution uses already 22 mbar

# Determining parameters of gas operating condition(2)

$P_{atm}$

- *atmospheric pressure* – depends on the sea level

Value used until now:

The most energy entities use  $P_{atm} = 1003,25$  mbar (corresponds to Rimski Šančevi),

Others - up to  $1022$  mbar

## Analysis of the Serbian Hydrometeorological Office (RHMZ)

Based on data of the RHMZ on mean values of  $P_{atm}$  in 17 cities – distribution headquarters :

- Monthly for 3 years (2005-2007) and
- Annually for 10 years (1998 – 2007),

The minimum deviation is obtained by using the function:

*Agency's suggestion*

$$P_{atm} = 1016 - 0,108 * h \quad (\text{mbar})$$

# Determining parameters of gas operating condition(3)

$P_{atm}(h)$   $h = h_{MMRS}$  – for all delivery points after MMRS

<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>To determine and publish</b>
<b>Transporter</b>	$h_{GMRS}$ – for all MMRS towards distributions, until the deadline defined in the Decree
<b>Distributor</b>	$P_{atm}$ – for charging customers until the deadline defined in the Decree

# Determining parameters of gas operating condition (4)

***Tr*** - *Operating temperature*

Energy entities converting according to temperature, apply:

- **Ground T at 1m of depth** (source RHMZ), maximum - 14 energy entities;
- **6°C throughout the year** (average winter temp.) - 1 en.entity

**Study of the Technical Department of Novi Sad University**

- **Combination of ground temp. and air and T fall due to pressure reduction at the regulator** ( $0,66 T_z + 0,34 T_v - 0,4 \Delta p$ ) - 2 energy entities,
- **Combination of ground temp. and air and T fall due to pressure reduction at the regulator** ( $0,75 T_z + 0,254 T_v - 0,4 \Delta p$ ) - 1 en.entity

**Some international experience: Austria, Italy, Croatia**

**One mean temperature throughout the year**

# Determining parameters of gas operating condition (5)

Mean temperature obtained on the basis of mean daily temperature on those days when heating is expected

$$K_T = \frac{T_n}{273.15 + \left( 22 - \frac{SD}{BD_G} \right)}$$

$K_T$	–	Coefficient of conversion according to temperature
$T_n$	–	Temp. of gas under <b>standard</b> condition, 288,15K
273,15	–	273,15 K = 0° C
$SD$	–	degree-day number: $\Sigma$ (mean temp. inside of the heated premises (20°C) – mean daily temperature°C * 1 day
$BD_G$	–	Total heating days (daily and below 12° C for Serbia)
$22 - SD / BD_G$	–	Operating temperature (heating compensates for the difference)



# Determining parameters of gas operating condition(6)

**Tr** - Based on data from RHMZ:

Year		Unit	Belgrade	Nis	Novi Sad
2005	degree-day		2,715	2,840	3,067
	number of heating days		165	168	177
	mean operating temperature	°C	5.54	5.09	4.67
2006	degree-day		2405	2717	2720
	number of heating days		144	161	163
	mean operating temperature	°C	5.30	5.12	5.31
2007	degree-day		2,227	2,442	2,639
	number of heating days		160	171	184
	mean operating temperature	°C	8.08	7.72	7.65
Average	degree-day		2,449	2,666	2,809
	number of heating days		156	167	175
	mean operating temperature	°C	<b>6.31</b>	<b>5.98</b>	<b>5.88</b>

# Determining parameters of gas operating condition (7)

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**Agency's suggestion:**

6 °C throughout the year

**Public consultation results:**

Tr = 6 °C – Oct - Apr

Tr = 15 °C – May - Sept

**Advantages:** Simple application for energy entities and ease of control

# Determining parameters of gas operating condition (8)

**Z**

- *gas compressibility*

Energy entities mostly do not apply that for  $P_m \leq 1$  bar

Suboticagas, 22mbar:  $1/Z = 1,000064$   
Increases volume for 0,0064%

Gauges with correctors:

Requested data are entered and Z is automatically calculated

Gauges without correctors :  $1/Z = 1 + k \cdot P_m$

for  $P_m < 8$ bar  $k < 0,0032$

$P_m \leq 1$  bar:  $Z=1$

*Agency's suggestion*

For conversion by calculation – disregard

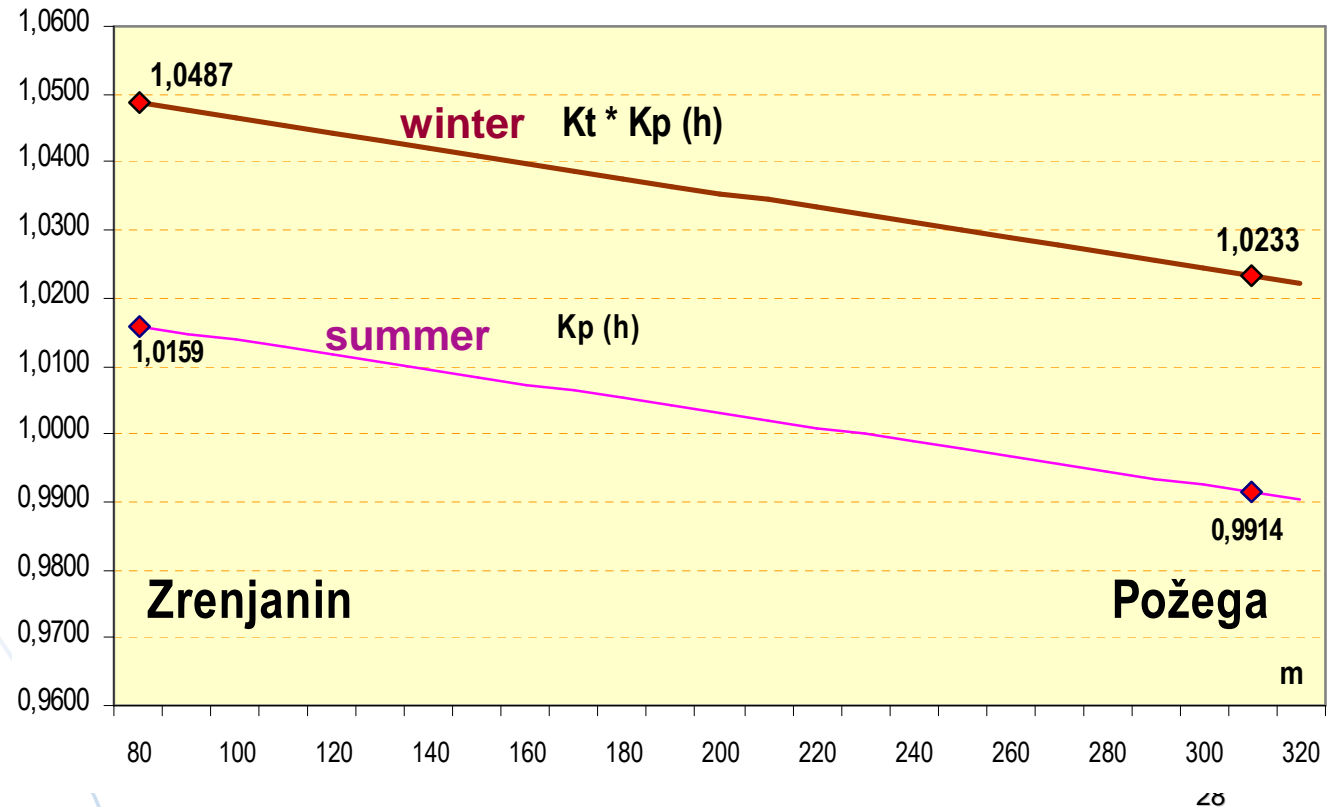
# Conversion to standard condition – for households (and similar consumers)

$$V_s = V_r \cdot \frac{P_m + P_{atm}}{P_s} \cdot \frac{T_s}{T_r} \cdot \frac{1}{Z}$$

$$V_s = V_r \cdot k_T \cdot k_p$$

$$k_T = 1,0322$$

$$k_p = f(h)$$



# Lower calorific value of ga (GLCV)

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## *Agency's suggestion*

**Hr**

- referential : three-year average LCV of imported gas

**Hpd**

- real: average LCV of gas - weighted

## *Public consultation results:*

***The referential value stays the same until transfer to :***

- ***Normal condition, and***
- ***Higher calorific value***

***Advantage:*** *there will be no two changes in a short period of time;*

***Disadvantage:*** *for more than 80% of gas invoices increase by about 2%*

# Installation of corrector

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## *Agency's suggestion*

### 1. Corrector installation criterion

- for  $P_m > 0,5$  bar – a corrector by pressure and temperature is installed, for  $P_m \leq 0,5$  bar – a corrector by temperature and temperature compensator is installed

### 2. Correction by temperature is not done, in case

- the metering device has a corrector by temperature (compensator), or
- the metering device without a temperature compensator is installed inside the facility

# Measuring of gas calorific value

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## *Agency's suggestion*

***The Natural Gas Transmission Grid Code passed  
by TSO with approval of the Agency***

**shall determine:**

- The obligation of the TSO to measure the calorific value of gas
  - ✱ at certain system points,
  - ✱ with certain frequency and accuracy,
  - ✱ using a certain method
- The obligation of TSO to report to the stakeholders on daily/periodic calorific values measured

# Decree modification initiative (1)

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***The Agency prepared :***

***Elements of the amendments***

***Decree on General Conditions for  
Natural Gas Delivery***





## Decree modification initiative (2)

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- 1. Method of determining operating parameters:**

$T_r$ ,  $P_{atm}(h)$ ,  $P_r(P_m)$ ;  $Z(P_m)$

- 2. Application start– as per Decree**

- 3. Deadlines for installation of the metering equipment**

# Decree modification initiative (3)

## Deadlines for installation of the metering equipment:

Metering equipment shall have	Condition	Deadline
Temperature compensator	$P_m < 0,5 \text{ bar}$	1. Jan. 2020
Corrector by (P,T)	$P_m \geq 0,5 \text{ bar}$	1. Jan . 2012
Daily protocol recorder and data processing	$P_m > 16 \text{ bar}$ Transport	1. Jan . 2011
Daily protocol recorder	$Q > 500 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$ Or $Q > 1 \text{ Mm}^3/\text{god}$ Distribution	1. Jan . 2013

***Thank you for your attention***

***Any questions ?***

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