

Determination of Methanol in Gasoline and Ethanol Fuels by High-Performance Liquid Chromatography

Gabriella P. Dias, [©]^a Rafael C. dos Santos,^b Renato C. Carvalho,^c Cristiane G. de Souza, [©]^{c,d} Amanda P. F. dos Santos,^b Débora F. de Andrade^c and Luiz A. d'Avila[®]*^b

^aEscola de Química, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Cidade Universitária, 21941-909 Rio de Janeiro-RJ, Brazil

^bPrograma de Engenharia de Processos Químicos e Bioquímicos, Escola de Química, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Cidade Universitária, 21941-909 Rio de Janeiro-RJ, Brazil

^cInstituto de Química, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Cidade Universitária, 21941-909 Rio de Janeiro-RJ, Brazil

^dPrograma de Engenharia da Nanotecnologia, Instituto Alberto Luiz Coimbra de Pós-Graduação e Pesquisa de Engenharia (COPPE), Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Cidade Universitária, 21941-909 Rio de Janeiro-RJ, Brazil

Gasoline and ethanol fuels have been adulterated with methanol in Brazil. Methanol is not permitted in concentrations greater than 0.5 vol% due its toxicity but its lower price stimulates the adulteration. A new approach for quantitative analysis of methanol in gasoline and ethanol fuels is reported employing high-performance liquid chromatography coupled with refractive index (RI) detector on C18 column (250 × 4.6 mm, 5 μ m) using deionized water as mobile phase (0.6 mL min⁻¹). The method showed good analytical performance in terms of linearity for methanol concentration ranging from 0.5 to 4.5 vol% (coefficient of determination (R²) = 0.999) and from 4.0 to 12.0 vol% (R² = 0.998). The recoveries (accuracy) values ranged from 98.6 to 103.2%. The results indicated that the developed method is accurate and suitable for the determination of methanol in gasoline with ethanol and ethanol fuel as an alternative procedure to gas chromatography (GC)-based techniques.

Keywords: liquid chromatography, adulterant, ethanol fuel, methanol, gasoline, refractive index

Introduction

Gasoline is a petroleum derivative fuel that has a large application in the transport sector. However, the excessive use of fossil fuels is thought to increase the greenhouse effect, climate change, air pollution and acid rain.¹ Gasoline is one of the main products from fractional distillation of petroleum, being a complex mixture of hydrocarbons from C5 to C10, with boiling points in the range of 30 to 215 °C, containing traces of oxygenated products, sulfur, nitrogen and metallic compounds, at low concentrations.^{2,3} In Brazil, gasoline is classified in "A" or "C" and "additivated gasoline". Gasoline A (no additive added) is obtained directly from refinery and C type is gasoline A with the addition of 27.0 vol% of ethanol.⁴

Due to environmental, economic and political issues related to the worldwide petroleum usage, government, industry and academic institutions have toward their interest to renewable fuels,^{5,6} of which ethanol has remarkable importance as a low-emission and profitable fuel.⁷

Consumption of hydrated ethanol on Brazil in 2018 was about 19.385 billion of liters, a remarkable increment of 42.1% compared to 2017. As a result, the market share of the ethanol usage (anhydrous and hydrated) in the market of fuels for Otto cycle, expressed in terms of gasoline gallon equivalent, have reached 43.8% in 2018, the highest score since the peak value of 45.0%, recorded in 2009. World sharing of ethanol on the consumption of fuels for Otto cycle in 2018 was 25.0% (Paraguay), 12.4% (Thailand), 12.0% (Argentina), 9.9% (USA), 9.5% (Canada), 8.0% (Colombia and Uruguay), 3.5% (China), 3.2% (India), 1.5% (EU), in gasoline gallon equivalents.⁸

^{*}e-mail: davila@eq.ufrj.br

In 1998, the Fuel Quality Monitoring Program was established in order to survey general indicators of the quality of fuels marketed in Brazil and to identify areas with non-conformity.⁹ Brazilian National Agency of Petroleum, Natural Gas and Biofuels (ANP)¹⁰ pointed out that ethanol has been eventually adulterated with methanol in Brazil, which is not allowed in concentrations greater than 0.5 vol%¹⁰ due to its higher toxicity.^{11,12}

The adulteration is carried out in order to obtain economic advantages, due to the availability and the lower cost of methanol in relation to ethanol. It is important to emphasize that this adulteration damages the consumer not only because it represents a greater risk to health, since methanol has higher toxicity than ethanol, but also because of the higher fuel consumption due to the lower calorific value of methanol (approximately 40% lower than the ethanol value).¹³

The reference method for determining methanol content in ethanol or gasoline, described in ANP resolution No. 19 of April 15, 2015, is detailed in NBR 16041,¹⁴ issued by the Brazilian Technical Standards Association (ABNT). In this method, gas chromatography is employed to separate alcohols from the hydrocarbons that compose gasoline. Underivatized samples are carried out throughout porous fused silica column (Q type, 100 m × 0.32 mm) using high purity nitrogen. Total time for analysis is 18 and 30 min for ethanol and gasoline, respectively.^{10,14}

The reference method for determining ethanol content in gasoline, described in ANP resolution No. 40 of October 25, 2013, is detailed in Brazilian standard NBR 13992,^{3,15} issued by ABNT. This method is known as "test of graduated test tube" and it is a simple, fast, practical and field-relevant method for investigating gasoline compliance. However, due to these characteristics, it has a measurement uncertainty of 1.0 vol%, with the limitation of quantifying other water miscible alcohols (mainly methanol) as anhydrous ethanol fuel, since the method is not selective.

In this context, the development of analytical methods to corroborate the quality and authenticity of fuels used in Brazil is quite necessary. Various analytical techniques have been reported for the determination of fuel adulteration, like electrochemical techniques,¹⁶⁻¹⁸ infrared spectroscopy,¹⁹⁻²⁹ Raman spectroscopy,³⁰⁻³⁴ proton nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (¹H NMR),^{35,36} chemometrics analysis,^{30,37,38} gas chromatography (GC),³⁸⁻⁴³ comprehensive two-dimensional gas chromatography,⁴⁴⁻⁴⁶ high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC),⁴⁷⁻⁴⁹ and distillation curves.^{50,51}

Avila *et al.*⁴⁷ developed an HPLC method for the selective quantification of ethanol in gasoline. In their work, the chromatographic separation was achieved in about

15 min on C18 column using methanol as mobile phase, refractive index detector (RI) and usual chromatographic conditions. The proposed method presented expanded uncertainty (0.56 vol%) lower than the current reference test NBR 13992 (1.0 vol%).¹⁵ Also, it is worth pointing that methanol content was not determined.

Abreu *et al.*¹⁶ proposed a determination of methanol and ethanol in hydrated ethyl alcohol fuel samples applying voltammetry and multivariate calibration. Chen *et al.*⁵² proposed a method for determination of methanol in waterethanol solution by HPLC-UV, a LiChrospher diol column and a mixture of *n*-hexane-dichloromethane (9:1) as mobile phase. Samples were derivatized using 3-bromomethyl-7-methoxy-1,4-benzoxazin-2-one. The method requires an additional step of derivatization, spending 2 h for complete reaction.

The present study proposes the first application of highperformance liquid chromatography with refractive index detection (HPLC-RI) to develop a quick and less expensive method for quantifying methanol content in gasoline and ethanol fuel.

Experimental

Standard samples of methanol in ethanol

Methanol and ethanol HPLC grade were purchased from Tedia (São Paulo, Brazil). Two analytical curves were made for ranges of 0.5-4.5 and 4.0-12.0 vol% by diluting 10.0 and 50.0 vol% mother solution of methanol in ethanol, respectively. The standard solutions were prior diluted with HPLC-grade ethanol to 10.0% for analysis by applying the proposed HPLC method. The diluted solutions were used as standards for linearity evaluation.

Preparation of ethanol fuel and gasoline samples for analysis

Twenty ethanol fuel samples with different quantities of methanol (0.5 to 9.6 vol%, determined by gas chromatography according to NBR 16041)¹⁴ were diluted at 20.0 vol% using Milli-Q water (Millipore, Bedford, USA) (see Figure 1). Ethanol fuel was supplied by several gas stations and support was provided by the Fuel and Petroleum Products Laboratory, located at School of Chemistry, UFRJ (LABCOM/UFRJ).

Gasoline A was fortified with 27.0 vol% of alcohol (methanol + ethanol) to provide eight samples with methanol content from 0.0 to 12.0 vol%. All the fortified samples of gasoline were submitted to the test of graduated test tube¹⁵ to extract the alcohol fraction (see Figure 1).



Figure 1. Procedure of methanol analysis in gasoline and ethanol fuel samples by HPLC-RI. $V_w = Milli-Q$ water volume; $V_g = gasoline volume; V_u = aqueous$ phase volume; $f_{dil} = dilution factor; C_{MeOH} = methanol concentration (vol%) and C_{curve} = exact methanol concentration (vol%) of standard samples (analytical curve) injected on HPLC-RI. HPLC-RI: high-performance liquid chromatography and refractive index detector; MeOH: methanol.$

8.0 mL of gasoline (V_{a}) and 8.0 mL of Milli-Q water (V_{w}) were mixed and homogenized for 10 times, at 18-23 °C. The aqueous phase volume (V_t) with the alcohols was measured, collected and diluted at 10.0 vol% using Milli-Q water. Milli-O water was used instead of 10% NaCl solution in order to avoid the deposition of salt in the chromatograph tubings, fittings and column, as well as, excessive system overpressure. To quantify methanol content in fortified gasoline samples, it was necessary to adequate the data from analytical curve of methanol in ethanol fuel (C_{curve} (methanol concentration of standard samples injected on HPLC-RI), see Figure 1). The gasoline A used on samples preparation was provided by the Fuel and Petroleum Products Laboratory, located at School of Chemistry, UFRJ (LABCOM/ UFRJ). Samples of gasoline containing methanol were not found on commercial suppliers.

HPLC proposed method (HPLC-RI)

Analyses were carried out using a high-performance liquid chromatograph Dionex UltiMateTM 3000 quaternary pump, a RefractoMax 521 refractive index detector and an UltiMateTM WPS-3000 autosampler (Thermo Scientific, Massachusetts, USA) with a 300.0 µL sample loop. An

Acclaim[™] column (Thermo Scientific, Massachusetts, USA) measuring 250.0 mm long and 4.6 mm internal diameter (I.D.) was used with an octadecylsilane (C18) phase with 5.0 µm particle size and 120.0 Å pore diameter. The mobile phase was 100% Milli-O water, degassed ultrasonically prior to use. The chromatographic conditions were as follows: flow-rate at 0.6 mL min⁻¹, injection volume of 20.0 µL, column oven and detector temperature at 30.0 °C and 8.0 min for total run time. Gasoline and ethanol fuel samples were diluted at 10.0 and 20.0 vol%, respectively, using Milli-Q water as diluent. The results were analyzed by Chromeleon 6.80 SR11 software (Thermo Scientific, Massachusetts, USA). Mobile phase and samples were filtered before injection using 0.2 µm polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) membrane filter (Millipore, Bedford, USA).

GC conditions

Ethanol fuel and gasoline samples were analyzed by GC without a pre-treatment, according to NBR 16041.¹⁴ Analyses were done using an Agilent 7890A gas chromatograph (Agilent Technologies, California, USA) with a flame ionization detector and an Agilent 7683A autosampler (Agilent Technologies, California, USA). An Agilent PoraPLOT Q-HT capillary column (100 m × 0.32 mm I.D., 10 µm film thickness, Agilent Technologies, California, USA) based on styrene/ divinylbenzene phase was connected to a particle trap (2.5 m × 0.32 mm). Flow-rate of carrier gas nitrogen was set at 30.0 mL min⁻¹. The temperatures at injector and detector were set at 250.0 and 280.0 °C, respectively, and split injection (0.5 µL for each injection) was used. Oven temperature program was as follows: 85.0 °C for 2.0 min followed by heating ramp of 35 °C min⁻¹ until reach 260.0 °C, kept at that temperature for 11.0 min. Chromatograms were analyzed using Agilent OpenLAB software (Agilent Technologies, California, USA). Total time of analysis was 18.0 min.

Validation procedure

The proposed method was validated according to ICH guidelines,⁵³ in terms of the following analytical parameters: linearity, limit of detection (LOD), limit of quantification (LOQ), precision and accuracy.

Linearity

Linearity parameter was determined by injection in triplicate of standard solutions corresponding to each point used to construct the analytical curve. Two analytical curves (a and b) were plotted in the range of 0.5-12.0 vol% of methanol in ethanol samples and fitted using least squares linear regression. Curve a ranged from 0.5 to 4.5 vol% (0.5, 1.5, 2.5, 3.5 and 4.5 vol%) and curve b ranged from 4.0 to 12.0 vol% (4.0, 6.0, 8.0, 10.0 and 12.0 vol%).

Homogeneity of variances was evaluated by Cochran test, according to equation 1.

$$C = \frac{s_{\max}^2}{\sum_{i=1}^k s_i^2}$$
(1)

where s_{max}^2 is the largest variance and $\sum_{i=1}^k s_i^2$ is the sum of all the variances of the samples.

Limit of detection and limit of quantification

The LOD and LOQ were calculated according to equations 2 and 3.

$$LOD = 3.3 \frac{\sigma_{LC}}{S}$$
(2)

$$LOQ = 10 \frac{\sigma_{LC}}{S}$$
(3)

where σ_{LC} is the standard deviation of the lowest concentration (LC) tested and S is the slope of the analytical curve.

Precision

Repeatability and intermediate precision were also used to evaluate precision of the method. Repeatability was verified for three different concentrations (lower, middle and higher), in triplicate. Lower, middle and higher concentrations were 0.5, 2.5 and 4.5 vol% for curve a and 4.0, 8.0 and 12.0 vol% for curve b. Intermediate precision was also evaluated using analytical curves constructed by two different analysts, in the same laboratory, and the results were compared by one-way ANOVA (analysis of variance). Precision was expressed as relative standard deviation (RSD, in %), according to equation 4.

$$RSD(\%) = \frac{\sigma}{\overline{C}} 100 \tag{4}$$

where σ stands for the standard deviation of the lowest concentration standard and \bar{c} is the average concentration.

Accuracy

Accuracy was expressed as recovery (R, in %) and calculated at different concentration levels (lower, middle and higher) of methanol in ethanol (triplicate) for each analytical curve. To the first calibration curve the concentrations were 0.5, 2.5 and 4.5 vol% and to the second curve, 4.0, 8.0 and 12.0 vol%. Accuracy was calculated by equation 5.

$$R(\%) = \frac{C_{\rm m}}{C_{\rm ex}} 100$$
(5)

where C_m and C_{ex} stand for the measured and expected concentrations, respectively.

HPLC-RI and reference GC methods comparison

A comparative study was carried out between the standard reference method¹⁴ (GC), recommended by ANP, for the analysis of the methanol content in fuel samples, and the proposed method (HPLC-RI), using the paired *t*-test, according to equation $6.^{54}$

$$t_{\text{calc}} = \frac{\overline{X}_C \sqrt{N}}{s_i}$$
(6)

where $\overline{X_{c}}$ is the mean of the differences, s_{i} is the standard deviation of the differences and N is the number of pairs.

Results and Discussion

Chromatographic parameters

All the samples (standards and fuel samples) were analyzed by HPLC and had the same gaussian chromatographic profile, as shown in Figure 2. In order to perform a clear integration of each peak, improved chromatographic conditions were used, such as flowrate at 0.6 mL min⁻¹ and injection volume of 20.0 μ L. Aqueous phase from extraction step (gasoline samples) and ethanol fuel samples were diluted at 10.0 and 20.0 vol%, respectively, using Milli-Q water as diluent. Since it was achieved an improved set of conditions that provided



Figure 2. HPLC chromatogram of a standard ethanol sample containing 0.5 vol% of methanol. Chromatographic conditions: flow-rate at 0.6 mL min⁻¹, injection volume of 20.0 μ L and dilution of 20.0 vol%. Peaks: 1: methanol; 2: ethanol. RIU: signal intensity in refractive index units.

balance between time of analysis and good peak resolution, it was performed the method validation.

Validation procedure

Linearity

For plotting each analytical curve, five standard samples of ethanol containing methanol were analyzed by HPLC in triplicate, as shown in Figure 3. The linearity was evaluated in the range of 0.5-4.5 and 4.0-12.0 vol%. Determination coefficient (\mathbb{R}^2) was higher than the acceptance criteria (0.990),^{55,56} pointing out good linearity at the established ranges.

The concentrations worked were split in two curves in order to guarantee the accuracy of the estimates at low and high methanol concentration levels.

The Cochran test was used, taking into account triplicates and the number of the concentrations (k = 5). For curves a and b, the C value calculated was C = 0.500 and 0.354, respectively, both was lower than the tabulated value (0.684) showing that the variances were homoscedastic.

Limit of detection and limit of quantification

For the lowest concentrations, LOD and LOQ values were 0.0053 and 0.016 vol%, respectively (see Table 1). For the highest concentrations, LOD and LOQ values were 0.0048 and 0.014 vol% (see Table 1). These limits showed no relevant differences when comparing the analytical curves. The results demonstrated that it is possible to differentiate and quantify samples differing from each other at about 0.014 vol% on methanol content. Also, it is noteworthy that if the regulatory standards restrict the tolerance range to lower levels (< 0.5 vol%), the present method is still applicable, since its LOQ is 0.01 vol%.



Figure 3. Analytical curves of methanol ranging (a) from 0.5 to 4.5 vol% and (b) from 4.0 to 12.0 vol% obtained by HPLC analysis. RIU: signal intensity in refractive index units.

Table 1. Validation parameters for HPLC-RI meth
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Parameter	Lowest concentrations	Highest concentrations
Linearity range $(n = 5) / vol\%$	0.5-4.5	4.0-12.0
Regression equation	$y = 1.0462x - 0.0376^{a}$	$y = 1.1238x - 0.4191^{a}$
Determination coefficient (R ²)	0.9999	0.9988
LOD / vol%	0.0053	0.0048
LOQ / vol%	0.016	0.014
Repeatability (RSD) ^b / %		
Lower	0.354	0.039
Middle	0.288	0.044
Higher	0.308	0.051
Recovery ^b / %		
Lower	99.07 ± 0.01	103.26 ± 0.09
Middle	100.60 ± 0.01	98.61 ± 0.08
Higher	100.09 ± 0.01	100.46 ± 0.04

^ay stands for the peak area (μ RIU min) and x for the methanol concentration (vol%); ^brepeatability and recovery values were determined in three different concentrations (lower, middle and higher), in triplicate, for each analytical curve. Lower, middle and higher concentrations were 0.5, 2.5 and 4.5 vol% for the first calibration curve and 4.0, 8.0 and 12.0 vol% for the second curve. HPLC-RI: high-performance liquid chromatography and refractive index detector; LOD: limit of detection; LOQ: limit of quantification, RSD: relative standard deviation.

Precision

RSD values lower than 5% show good precision in terms of repeatability (Table 1).^{55,56} Intermediate precision was evaluated from data of different curves, by means of one-way ANOVA. The *F* value calculated by ANOVA (F = 0.072) was lower than the tabulated value (4.196), showing that there are not statistical differences among the means.

Accuracy

Accuracy values were obtained in the range of 98.61 to 103.26%. The overall mean recovery was found to be 99.92 \pm 0.01% for the lowest concentrations and 100.77 \pm 0.07% for the highest concentrations, showing good agreement between experimental and calculated values. The accuracy results were found within acceptance criteria (70-120%).^{55,56} Table 1 shows the validation parameters of the proposed analytical method.

Comparison between the HPLC-RI and reference GC methods

We performed a comparison between the proposed HPLC method and the reference method¹⁴ (GC), according to ANP, in order to provide the partial validation of the methodology. The appropriate equations for analytical curves were used to quantify methanol concentrations determined by HPLC in the 20 ethanol fuel samples tested. Table 2 shows the results for HPLC analysis of methanol content in the mentioned samples, performed in triplicate and compared to the results obtained by gas chromatography (GC).

 Table 2. Methanol content on verification samples (ethanol fuel samples),

 determined by HPLC-RI and GC

Sample	Methanol content \pm SD / vol%		
	HPLC-RI	GC	
1	0.487 ± 0.001	0.70 ± 0.02^{a}	
2	0.704 ± 0.004	0.60 ± 0.02^{a}	
3	0.934 ± 0.001	0.80 ± 0.02^{a}	
4	1.190 ± 0.002	1.20 ± 0.02^{a}	
5	1.258 ± 0.001	1.30 ± 0.02^{a}	
6	1.508 ± 0.003	1.30 ± 0.02^{a}	
7	1.562 ± 0.006	1.50 ± 0.02^{a}	
8	1.855 ± 0.004	2.00 ± 0.02^{a}	
9	2.191 ± 0.017	2.00 ± 0.02^{a}	
10	2.350 ± 0.003	2.70 ± 0.02^{a}	
11	2.721 ± 0.002	2.80 ± 0.02^{a}	
12	2.763 ± 0.002	3.10 ± 0.65^{b}	
13	3.594 ± 0.011	3.60 ± 0.65^{b}	
14	5.472 ± 0.009	$5.50 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$	
15	6.317 ± 0.034	$6.00 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$	
16	7.051 ± 0.018	7.10 ± 0.65^{b}	
17	7.909 ± 0.030	8.20 ± 0.65^{b}	
18	7.980 ± 0.086	8.10 ± 0.65^{b}	
19	9.245 ± 0.027	$9.40 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$	
20	9.607 ± 0.016	$9.50 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$	

^aOverall mean deviation for analytical curves from 0.5-4.5 vol%; ^boverall mean deviation for analytical curves from 4.0-12.0 vol%. HPLC-RI: high-performance liquid chromatography and refractive index detector; SD: standard deviation; GC: gas chromatography.

Results obtained from HPLC-RI and GC were compared by means of paired *t*-test. The *t*-value calculated (0.641)was lower than the tabulated value (2.093, two-tailed), indicating no statistical differences (95% confidence)between the methods.

Table 3 shows the results of HPLC analysis of methanol content in 8 verification samples (gasoline samples) performed in triplicate, comparing to the results obtained by gas chromatography (GC). The results obtained by HPLC-RI and GC were compared by means of paired *t*-test. The *t*-value calculated (2.127) was lower than the tabulated value (2.365), showing that there are not statistical differences (95% confidence) among the methods.

Data presented on Tables 2 and 3 were plotted in order to highlight the accordance among the results obtained from the HPLC-RI method and the reference method

Table 3. Methanol content on verification samples (gasoline samples),

 determined by HPLC-RI and GC

Sample	Methanol conte	Methanol content ± SD / vol%		
	HPLC-RI	GC		
1	<loq< td=""><td>$< 0.07 \pm 0.02^{a}$</td></loq<>	$< 0.07 \pm 0.02^{a}$		
2	0.50 ± 0.01	0.50 ± 0.02^{a}		
3	2.60 ± 0.01	2.90 ± 0.02^{a}		
4	4.90 ± 0.07	$5.00 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$		
5	5.80 ± 0.01	$5.60 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$		
6	6.30 ± 0.01	$6.60 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$		
7	7.30 ± 0.02	$7.60 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$		
8	11.30 ± 0.08	$11.90 \pm 0.65^{\text{b}}$		

^aOverall mean deviation for analytical curves from 0.5-4.5 vol%; ^boverall mean deviation for analytical curves from 4.0-12.0 vol%. HPLC-RI: high-performance liquid chromatography and refractive index detector; SD: standard deviation; GC: gas chromatography; LOQ: limit of quantification. (GC). Standard deviations are shown for all values (see Figure 4). It is interesting to notice that the GC method presents a large deviation for samples with high methanol concentrations. Deviations estimated on our method were almost homogeneous for all the samples (ethanol fuel and gasoline).

Conclusions

A simple, fast, precise, accurate and sensitive HPLC-RI for determination of methanol in gasoline with ethanol and ethanol fuels was successfully implemented, without derivatization of compound under analysis and with no interference observed in conditions employed.

Performing the test of graduated test tube method, uniquely, it is not possible to measure the ethanol content in gasoline containing methanol as adulterant. Therefore, the developed method is complementary to the test of graduated test tube method. When the former points out the absence of methanol, the test of graduated test tube could be safely applied to quantify ethanol on gasoline samples.

The response of the method was found to be linear in the range of 0.5-4.5 and 4.0-12.0 vol% of methanol, and it proved to be precise and accurate. Furthermore, the chromatographic method was validated and presented acceptable values for all the method validation parameters tested. Also, it is a resource-saving method with the utilization of water as solvent and common stationary phases.

Finally, it must be highlighted that this method is in

accordance among the results obtained with reference method (GC) and presents itself as an alternative procedure to reference GC-based technique. 13 12- (b) Gasoline



Figure 4. Comparison between methanol concentrations determined by means of the proposed HPLC method and GC method for (a) ethanol fuel and (b) gasoline samples.

Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to CNPq for financial support.

Author Contributions

Gabriella P. Dias was responsible for the investigation and methodology; Rafael C. dos Santos for the conceptualization, formal analysis, investigation, methodology, project administration, supervision, writing: original draft, review and editing; Renato C. Carvalho for the conceptualization, supervision, writing: review and editing; Cristiane G. de Souza for the conceptualization, formal analysis, investigation, methodology, project administration, supervision, validation, writing: original draft, review and editing; Amanda P. F. dos Santos for the review; Débora F. de Andrade for the conceptualization, formal analysis, investigation, methodology, project administration, resources, supervision, validation, writing: original draft, review and editing; Luiz A. d'Avila for the conceptualization, formal analysis, investigation, methodology, project administration, resources, supervision, validation, writing: original draft, review and editing.

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Submitted: September 6, 2019 Published online: December 12, 2019