## INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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# Instant coffee — Determination of moisture content — Karl Fischer method (Reference method)

Café instantané — Détermination de la teneur en eau — Méthode de Karl Fischer (Méthode de référence)

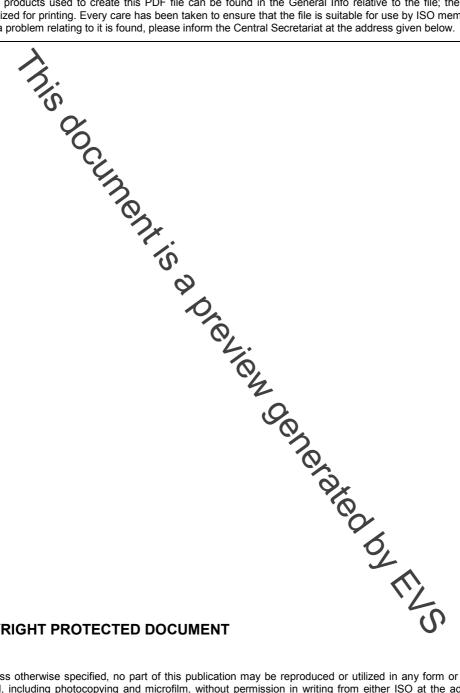


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### Instant coffee — Determination of moisture content — Karl Fischer method (Reference method)

#### 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method for the determination of moisture content in instant coffee by the Karl Fischer titration method, suitable for use as a reference method.

#### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 4788, Laboratory glassware — Graduated measuring cylinders

#### 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

#### 3.1

#### moisture content

content of water, determined according to the procedure specified in this International Standard

NOTE The moisture content is expressed as a percentage mass flaction.

#### 4 Principle

#### 4.1 General

In a Karl Fischer apparatus, a test portion of instant coffee is dissolved in a water-free solution of formamide, methanol, and salicylic acid (FMS). Subsequent titration with a Karl Fischer reagent is applied under continuous stirring until the endpoint of the titration is reached and electrometrically detected. The volume of Karl Fischer reagent consumed is used to calculate the moisture content of the test portion.

#### 4.2 Reaction

During the Karl Fischer titration, water present in the sample reacts with iodine and sulfur dioxide in the presence of an amine and an alcohol (e.g. methanol):

$$\mathsf{H}_2\mathsf{O} + \mathsf{I}_2 + \mathsf{SO}_2 + \mathsf{ROH} + 3\mathsf{R}_n\mathsf{NH}_{3-n} \to 2\mathsf{R}_n\mathsf{NH}_{3-n} \cdot \mathsf{HI} + \mathsf{R}_n\mathsf{NH}_{3-n} \cdot \mathsf{HSO}_4\mathsf{R}$$

where R is an alkyl or alkoxyl group.

The endpoint of the reaction is detectable by a small, surplus amount of iodine and quantified electrometrically (either amperometrically or voltametrically). The procedure described in this International Standard is performed only with pyridine-free Karl Fischer (one-component) reagent (KFR).