

to 280 Deg. C at 4 Deg. C/min; injection system = Grob splitless using a 30 second dump time and split ratio of 25:1, carrier gas = hydrogen at 2mls/min; sample = 1 μ l of 0.5% soln in pentane.

The following information is commonly obtained from C12+ gas chromatographic analysis:

(a) n-Alkane Distribution - The C12-C31 n-alkane distribution is determined from the area under peaks representing each of these n-alkanes. This distribution can yield information about both the level of maturity and the source type (LeTran et. al., 1974).

(b) Carbon Preference Index - Two values are determined:

$$\text{CPI (1)} = \frac{(\text{C23} + \text{C25} + \text{C27} + \text{C29}) \text{ Wt\%} + (\text{C25} + \text{C27} + \text{C29} + \text{C31}) \text{ Wt\%}}{2 \times (\text{C24} + \text{C26} + \text{C28} + \text{C30}) \text{ Wt\%}}$$

$$\text{CPI (2)} = \frac{(\text{C23} + \text{C25} + \text{C27}) \text{ Wt\%} + (\text{C25} + \text{C27} + \text{C29}) \text{ Wt\%}}{2 \times (\text{C24} + \text{C26} + \text{C28}) \text{ Wt\%}}$$

The CPI is believed to be a function of both the level of maturity (Cooper and Bray, 1963; Scalan and Smith, 1970) and the source type (Tissot and Welte, 1978). Marine extracts tend to have values close to 1.0 irrespective of maturity whereas values for terrestrial extracts decrease with maturity from values as high as 20 but do not usually reach a value of 1.0

(c) (C21+C22)/(C28+C29) - This parameter provides information about the source of the organic matter (Philippi, 1974). Generally, terrestrial source material gives values <1.2 whereas a aquatic source material results in values >1.5.

(d) Pristane/Phytane Ratio - This value was determined from the areas of peaks representing these compounds. The ratio renders information about the depositional environment according to the following scale (Powell and McKirdy, 1975):

< 3.0	Relatively reducing depositional environment
3.0-4.5	Reducing/oxidizing depositional environment
>4.5	Relatively oxidizing depositional environment

(e) Pristane/n-C17 Ratio - This ratio was determined from the areas of peaks representing these compounds. The value can provide information about both the depositional environment and the level of maturation (Lijmbach, 1975). Very immature crude oil has a pristane/n-C17 ratio >1.0, irrespective of the depositional environment. However, the following classification can be applied to mature crude oil:

<0.5	Open water depositional environment
0.5-1.0	Mixed depositional environment
>1.0	Peat-swamp depositional environment

In the case of sediment extracts these values are significantly higher and the following classification is used: