

instantaneous (spot) sampling

in atmospheric chemistry

Obtaining a sample of the atmosphere in a period which is short compared with the duration of the sampling exercise. Such samples are often called 'grab' samples, a term not recommended. These are useful for the analysis of hydrocarbons and other complicated mixtures of trace gases which are relatively stable in a stainless steel canister or tank and can be transported back to the laboratory for chromatographic or other analysis which cannot be done satisfactorily in the field.

Source:

PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2197