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The invention refers to testing and diagnosis of the internal combustion engine with spark ignition.

The method consists in application of high voltage pulses to the sparking plug of the engine being at rest and in the driving regime from an independent power source. The novelty consists in measuring the current of sparking plug of the engine being at rest and in the driving regime, and in utilization of obtained values for determination of the compression according to the equation:

$$P_c = P_a (A-I / A-I_0)^n,$$

where:  $P_a$  - the atmospheric pressure;

$I_0$  - the current of engine sparking plug being at rest;

$I$  - the current of engine sparking plug being in the driving regime;

$A$  - the constant value;

$n$  - compression polytropic exponent.

The result consists in decreasing the manual labour utilized for compression measuring.