



Standard Test Method for Water Reaction of Aviation Fuels¹

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This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of the presence of water-miscible components in aviation gasoline and turbine fuels, and the effect of these components on volume change and on the fuel-water interface.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. ~~No other units of measurement are included in this~~ The values given in parentheses after SI units are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.3 ~~This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety, health, and health environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.~~ This standard involves the use of hazardous chemicals identified in Section 7. Before using this standard, refer to suppliers' safety labels, Material Safety Data Sheets and other technical literature.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D381 Test Method for Gum Content in Fuels by Jet Evaporation

D611 Test Methods for Aniline Point and Mixed Aniline Point of Petroleum Products and Hydrocarbon Solvents

D1836 Specification for Commercial Hexanes

D2699 Test Method for Research Octane Number of Spark-Ignition Engine Fuel

D2700 Test Method for Motor Octane Number of Spark-Ignition Engine Fuel

D3948 Test Method for Determining Water Separation Characteristics of Aviation Turbine Fuels by Portable Separometer

2.2 Energy Institute Standard:³

IP Standard Test Methods Vol 2, Appendix B, Specification for Petroleum Spirits

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.1.1 *film, n*—thin, translucent layer that does not adhere to the wall of the glass cylinder.

3.1.2 *lace, n*—fibers thicker than hairlike shred or of which more than 10 % are interlocking, or both.

3.1.3 *loose lace or slight scum, or both (Table 2, Rating 3), n*—an assessment that the fuel/buffer solution interface is covered with more than 10 % but less than 50 % of lace or scum that does not extend into either of the two layers.

3.1.4 *scum, n*—layer thicker than film or that adheres to the wall of the glass cylinder, or both.

3.1.5 *shred, n*—hairlike fibers of which less than 10 % are interlocking.

3.1.6 *shred, lace or film at interface (Table 2, Rating 2), n*—an assessment that fuel/buffer solution interface contains more than 50 % clear bubbles or some but less than 10 % shred, lace, film or both.

3.1.7 *tight lace or heavy scum, or both (Table 2, Rating 4), n*—an assessment that the fuel/buffer solution interface is covered with more than 50 % of lace or scum, or both, that extends into either of the two layers or forms an emulsion, or both.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.J0.05 on Fuel Cleanliness.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For Annual Book of ASTM Standards volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Available from Energy Institute, 61 New Cavendish St., London, WIG 7AR, U.K., <http://www.energyinst.org.uk>.

3.1.8 *water reaction interface conditions rating, n*—a qualitative assessment of the tendency of a mixture of water and aviation turbine fuel to form interface films or precipitates.

3.1.9 *water reaction separation rating, n*—a qualitative assessment of the tendency of insufficiently cleaned glassware to produce emulsions or precipitates, or both, in separated fuel and water layers.

3.1.10 *water reaction volume change, n*—a qualitative indication of the presence in aviation gasoline of water-soluble components.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A sample of the fuel is shaken, using a standardized technique, at room temperature with a phosphate buffer solution in scrupulously cleaned glassware. The cleanliness of the glass cylinder is tested. The change in volume of the aqueous layer and the appearance of the interface are taken as the water reaction of the fuel.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 When applied to aviation gasoline, water reaction volume change using the technique reveals the presence of ~~water-soluble~~water-soluble components such as alcohols. When applied to aviation turbine fuels, water reaction interface rating using the technique is not reliable in revealing the presence of surfactants which disarm filter-separators quickly and allow free water and particulates to pass; but can reveal the presence of other types of contaminants. Other tests, such as Test Method **D3948**, are capable of detecting surfactants in aviation fuels.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Graduated Glass Cylinder*, glass-stoppered, ~~100 mL, 100 mL~~, with ~~1 mL~~1 mL graduations. The distance between the ~~100 mL~~100 mL mark and the top of the shoulder of the cylinder must be within the range from ~~50 mm~~ to ~~60 mm~~60 mm.

7. Reagents

7.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents shall conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society, where such specifications are available.⁴ Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficient purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

7.2 *Purity of Water*—Unless otherwise indicated, reference to water shall be understood to mean distilled water, or water of equivalent purity.

7.3 *Acetone*—(~~Warning—Warning~~Flammable.—~~Flammable.~~ Health hazard.)

7.4 *Glass-Cleaning Solution*—Saturate concentrated sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄, sp gr 1.84) with potassium dichromate (K₂Cr₂O₇) or sodium dichromate (Na₂Cr₂O₇). (~~Warning—Warning~~Corrosive.—~~Corrosive.~~ Health hazard. Oxidizing agent.) d1094-072019

7.5 *n-Hexane*—Conforming to Specification **D1836** or *n*-heptane conforming to material used in Test Methods **D611**, **D381**, **D2699**, and **D2700** or petroleum spirit 60/80 conforming to IP Appendix B Specification, or equivalent. (~~Warning—Warning~~Flammable.—~~Flammable.~~ Health hazard.)

7.6 *Phosphate Buffer Solution (pH 7)*—Dissolve ~~1.15 g~~1.15 g of potassium monohydrogen phosphate, anhydrous (K₂HPO₄) and ~~0.47 g~~0.47 g of potassium dihydrogen phosphate, anhydrous (KH₂PO₄) in ~~100 mL~~100 mL of water. Larger volumes of the phosphate buffer solution may be prepared provided the concentration of K₂HPO₄ and KH₂PO₄ in the water solution is equivalent to that described above. As an alternative, the laboratory may use a commercially prepared solution.

8. Preparation of Apparatus

8.1 Clean the graduated cylinder thoroughly before carrying out this test. Only cylinders that are adequately cleaned can be used.

8.1.1 Remove traces of oil from the graduated cylinder and stopper by flushing with hot tap water, brushing if necessary. ~~Alternately,~~Alternatively, remove all traces of oil from the graduated cylinder and stopper, using either *n*-hexane or *n*-heptane or the IP petroleum solvent 60/80. Rinse with acetone followed by tap water.

8.1.2 Following the washing described in 8.1.1, immerse the cylinder and stopper in either (1) a non-ionic detergent cleaning solution, or (2) glass cleaning solution described in 7.4. The type of non-ionic detergent and conditions for its use need to be established in each laboratory. The criterion for satisfactory cleaning shall be a matching of the quality of that obtained with chromic acid cleaning solution. Non-ionic detergent cleaning avoids the potential hazards and inconveniences related to handling corrosive chromic acid solutions. The latter remains as the reference cleaning practice and as such may function as an alternate

⁴ *Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications*, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. For suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see *Annual Standards for Laboratory Chemicals*, BDH Ltd., Poole, Dorset, U.K., and the *United States Pharmacopeia and National Formulary*, U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc. (USPC), Rockville, MD.