



Designation: **D8097—17** **D8097 – 17^{ε1}**

Standard Test Method for Determination of Bulk Density for Specific Size Fractions of Calcined Petroleum Coke Using a Transaxial Pressure Pycnometer¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D8097; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

^{ε1} NOTE—Editorially updated 3.1.1 in January 2020.

1. Scope

1.1 The test method covers the determination of bulk density for a specific size fraction of calcined petroleum coke using an automated pycnometer that compacts coke by applying transaxial pressure under a controlled force.

1.2 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this 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 environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

1.4 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

[D6969 Practice for Preparation of Calcined Petroleum Coke Samples for Analysis](#)

[D6970 Practice for Collection of Calcined Petroleum Coke Samples for Analysis](#)

[E11 Specification for Woven Wire Test Sieve Cloth and Test Sieves](#)

[E177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods](#)

[E691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *bulk density, n—of coke*, the ratio of the mass of a collection of particles of a specified size range to the volume occupied.

3.1.2 *transaxial pressure, n—pressure applied across a horizontal axis.*

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 A representative sample of calcined petroleum coke is collected and then screened using Specification [E11](#) sieves (8 mm, 4 mm, 2 mm, 1 mm, 0.5 mm, 0.25 mm) into fractions. Each specific size fraction is then weighed and the bulk volume is measured using the pycnometer. This test method measures the bulk volume by controlling the consolidation force and measuring the displacement of a plunger used to compact the bed of coke.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The bulk density is an indicator of calcined petroleum coke porosity and packing capability which is an important coke property for anode production in aluminum industry. This procedure will allow an automated measurement of specific sized fractions ranging from 8 mm to 0.25 mm coke particles.

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 [D02.05](#) on Properties of Fuels, Petroleum Coke and Carbon Material.

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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.

5.2 Results from this test method are used in determining coke specifications, classification purposes, and for quality control.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Balance*, capable of measuring 100 g ± 0.0001 g.

6.2 *Table Top Riffler*:

6.2.1 *Pycnometer*, equipped with a force transducer and suitable 50.8 mm (2 in.) or larger glass chamber and plunger assembly.

NOTE 1—GeoPyc 1360³ has been successfully used for this analysis.

6.3 *Wire Mesh Sieves*, 8 in. diameter, round, 8.00 mm (⁵/₁₆ in.), 4.00 mm (No. 5), 2.00 mm (No. 10), 1.00 mm (No. 18), 0.50 mm (No. 35), 0.25 mm (No. 60), pan, and cover.

6.4 *Ro-tap Sieve Shaker*, for 8 in. diameter sieves.

7. Sampling, Test Specimens, and Test Units

7.1 Grab a representative sample according to Practice **D6970** and reduce the sample to 900 g ± 100 g following Practice **D6969**.

7.2 Sieve the representative sample using the following screens: 8.00 mm (⁵/₁₆ in.), 4.00 mm (No. 5), 2.00 mm (No. 10), 1.00 mm (No. 18), 0.50 mm (No. 35), and 0.25 mm (No. 60).

7.3 Using a sieve shaker, shake the sieves for 10 min.

7.4 Discard of the top sieve material (⁵/₁₆ in. (8.00 mm)) and transfer each sized fraction of calcined petroleum coke into appropriate containers.

8. Preparation of Apparatus

8.1 Follow manufacturer’s instructions for initial assembly, conditioning, and preparation of pycnometer.

9. Calibration and Standardization

9.1 Follow the instructions for the equipment used.

9.2 A blank data set can be performed by following the procedure based upon the equipment used. If the GeoPyc (see **Note 1**) is used, follow detail in **Annex A1** and **Table 1**.

TABLE 1 Recommended Equipment Setting

Number of Cycles:	10
Consolidation Force:	30 N
Preparation Cycles:	5
Agitation:	High
Speed:	150 steps/s

9.3 A blank data set shall be performed each time a new cylinder is used or when the apparatus is moved.

10. Procedure

10.1 Split the sieved sample fraction to a test specimen of 52 g ± 2 g.

10.2 Weigh the prepared test specimen to 0.0001 g and record the weight.

10.3 Pour the entire test specimen into the glass chamber and insert PTFE plunger.

10.4 Fit the chamber and plunger assembly onto the pycnometer.

10.5 Start the analysis following the procedure in the instruction manual.

10.6 Enter the necessary or required information such as sample identification, sample mass, or other user-selected information.

10.7 Choose the stored blank data set for the analysis.

10.8 Press “Enter.” The analysis will begin and will be performed automatically.

10.9 Record the final volume or density when pycnometer has finished analyzing the test specimen. You may also print a copy of the report if a printer is attached.

³ The sole source of supply of the apparatus known to the committee at this time is Micromeritics Instrument Corporation, 4356 Communications Dr., Norcross, GA 30093, USA. If you are aware of alternative suppliers, please provide this information to ASTM International Headquarters. Your comments will receive careful consideration at a meeting of the responsible technical committee,¹ which you may attend.