



Designation: C1025 – 15 (Reapproved 2020)

Standard Test Method for Modulus of Rupture in Bending of Electrode Graphite¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C1025; 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 reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers determination of the modulus of rupture in bending of specimens cut from graphite electrodes using a simple square cross section beam in four-point loading at room temperature.

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

[C651 Test Method for Flexural Strength of Manufactured Carbon and Graphite Articles Using Four-Point Loading at Room Temperature](#)

[C783 Practice for Core Sampling of Graphite Electrodes](#)

[E4 Practices for Force Verification of Testing Machines](#)

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

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions:*

3.1.1 *electrode graphite, n*—a type of manufactured graphite with less restrictive controls on homogeneity and purity,

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.F0 on Manufactured Carbon and Graphite Products.

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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.

commonly produced to carry current in electric arc furnaces, as a consumable item in electrical discharge machining, and as a structural material in plastic-injection molds.

3.1.2 *flexural strength, n*—property of solid material that indicates its ability to withstand a flexural or transverse load, obtained through a measurement of the ultimate load-carrying capacity of a specified beam in bending.

3.1.3 *modulus of rupture in bending, n*—the value of maximum stress in the extreme fiber of a specified beam loaded to failure in bending.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This test method provides a means for determining the modulus of rupture of a square cross section graphite specimen machined from the electrode core sample obtained according to Practice C783, with a minimum core diameter of 57 mm. This test method is recommended for quality control or quality assurance purposes, but should not be relied upon to compare materials of radically different particle sizes or orientational characteristics. For these reasons as well as those discussed in 4.2 an absolute value of flexural strength may not be obtained.

4.2 *Specimen Size*—The maximum particle size and maximum pore size vary greatly for manufactured graphite electrodes, generally increasing with electrode diameter. The test is on a rather short stubby beam, therefore the shear stress is not insignificant compared to the flexural stress, and the test results may not agree when a different ratio or specimen size is used.

5. Apparatus

5.1 The testing machine shall conform to the requirements of Sections 14 and 17 of Practices E4.

5.2 The four-point loading fixture shall consist of bearing blocks or roller assemblies which ensure that forces applied to the beam are normal only and without eccentricity. (See Test Method C651.) The directions of loads and reactions may be maintained parallel by judicious use of linkages, rocker bearings, and flexure plates. Eccentricity of loading can be avoided by the use of spherical or cylindrical bearings. Provision must be made in fixture design for relief of torsional loading to less than 5 % of the nominal specimen strength. Refer to Fig. 1 for a suggested four-point fixture with a semi-articulating roller configuration.

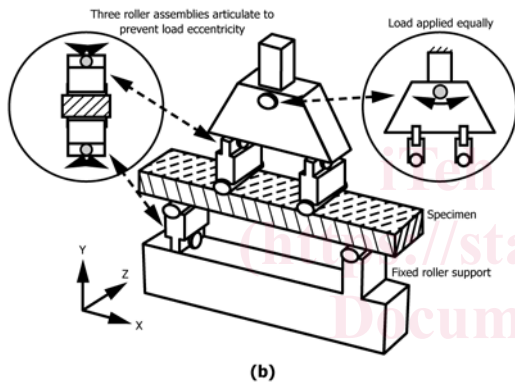
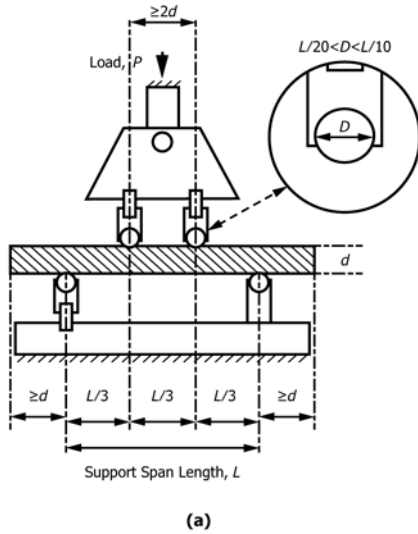


FIG. 1 Beam with Four-Point Loading (Not to Scale)

to room temperature and stored in a desiccator or dry environment and held there prior to testing.

NOTE 1—Water, either in the form of liquid or as humidity in air, can have an effect on flexural mechanical behavior. Excessive adsorbed water can result in a reduced failure stress due to a decrease in fracture surface energy.

7. Procedure

7.1 Center the specimen in the test fixture. Make sure that no extraneous torsional loads are being introduced to the specimen.

7.2 The support span shall be equal to three times the specimen thickness, 114 mm. The load span shall be one third the support span, 38 mm. Refer to Fig. 1.

7.3 Apply the breaking load at a maximum rate of 0.02 mm/s.

8. Test Data Record

8.1 Measurements to 0.03 mm shall be made to determine the average width and thickness of the specimen at the section of failure.

8.2 The load at failure shall be recorded to ±1 %.

9. Calculation

9.1 If the fracture occurs within the load span, calculate the modulus of rupture, the maximum bending moment, the distance from the neutral axis to the location where the fiber failed, and the moment of inertia of the original cross section as follows:

9.1.1 Modulus of rupture:

$$MOR = Mc/I$$

$$MOR = (PL/bt^2)(1000)$$

9.1.2 Maximum bending moment:

$$M = (P/2)(L/3)$$

9.1.3 Distance from the neutral axis to the location where the fiber failed:

$$c = (t/2)$$

9.1.4 Moment of inertia of the original cross-section:

$$I = (bt^3/12)$$

where:

- MOR = modulus of rupture, kPa,
- M = maximum bending moment, N · mm,
- c = distance from the neutral axis to the location where the fiber failed, mm,
- I = moment of inertia of the original cross-section, mm⁴,
- P = maximum applied load indicated by the testing machine, N,
- L = support span length, mm,
- b = average width of the specimen, mm, and
- t = average thickness of the specimen, mm.

9.2 If the fracture occurs outside of the load span, this observation shall be reported.

5.3 The bearing block diameter shall be between 1/10 and 1/20 of the specimen support span, 12 mm to 6 mm. A hardened steel bearing block, roller assembly, or its equivalent is necessary to prevent distortion of the loading member.

6. Test Specimen

6.1 Sampling—A core sample (minimum of 57 mm diameter and 165 mm long) shall be obtained from the electrode in accordance with Practice C783.

6.2 Preparation—A test specimen shall be prepared from the core to yield a parallelepiped of square cross section. The faces shall be parallel and flat within 0.002 mm/mm of length. Specimen edges shall be free from visible flaws and chips. All surfaces shall be smooth with a surface texture equivalent to that obtained from a precision band saw or better.

6.3 The square cross section specimen shall be 38 mm by 38 mm and at least 153 mm long.

6.4 Measurements—All dimensions shall be measured to at least 0.03 mm.

6.5 Drying—Each specimen must be dried in an oven at greater than 110 °C for 2 h. The specimen must then be cooled