



Standard Test Method for Analyzing Stress in Glass¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 218; 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.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the analysis of stress in glass by means of a polarimeter based on the principles developed by de Sénarmont and Friedel (1,2).² Stress is evaluated as a function of optical retardation. Retardation is expressed as the angle of rotation of an analyzing polarizer that causes extinction in the glass.

1.2 *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 and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Polarimeter

2.1 The polarimeter shall consist of an arrangement similar to that shown in Fig. 1. A description of each component follows:

2.1.1 *Source of Light*—Either a white light or a monochromatic source such as sodium light (λ 589 nm) or a mercury-vapor arc lamp of the high-pressure type, preferably the latter.

NOTE 1—The white light should provide a source of illumination with solar temperature of at least that of Illuminant A.

2.1.2 *Filter*—In order to render the light monochromatic, a narrow band-pass filter should be used.

2.1.3 *Diffuser*—A piece of opal glass or a ground glass of photographic quality.

2.1.4 *Polarizer*—A polarizing element housed in a rotatable mount capable of being locked in a fixed position.

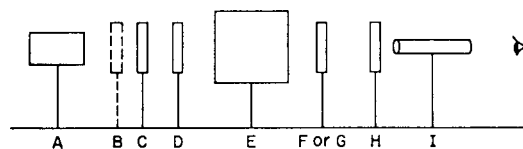
2.1.5 *Immersion Cell*—Rectangular glass jar with strain-free sides filled with a liquid having the same index of refraction as the glass specimen to be measured. It may be surmounted with a suitable device for holding and rotating the specimen, such that it does not stress the specimen.

NOTE 2—Suitable index liquids may be purchased or mixed as required. Dibutyl phthalate (refractive index 1.489), and tricresyl phosphate (index 1.555) may be mixed to produce any desired refractive index between the two limits, the refractive index being a linear function of the proportion of one liquid to the other. Other liquids that may be used are:

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C-14 on Glass and Glass Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C14.04 on Physical and Mechanical Properties.

Current edition approved Sept. 10, 1995. Published November 1995. Originally published as B 218 – 50. Last previous edition F 218 – 68 (1989).

² The boldface numbers in parentheses refer to the reports and papers appearing in the list of references at the end of this test method.



- A—Light source (white, sodium vapor, or mercury vapor arc)
- B—Filter (used only with mercury arc light)
- C—Diffuser
- D—Polarizer
- E—Immersion cell
- F—Full-wave plate (used only with white light)
- G—Quarter-wave plate
- H—Analyzer
- I—Telescope

FIG. 1 Polarimeter

Liquid	Refractive Index
Cinnamic aldehyde	1.62
Oil of cassia	1.61
Monochlorobenzene	1.525
Carbon tetrachloride	1.463
Dipentene (Eastman)	1.473

NOTE 3—Cases may arise where the refraction liquid may contaminate the specimen. If it is viewed through sides that are essentially parallel elimination of the liquid will cause only a minor error. However, when viewing through sides that are not parallel, the use of a refraction liquid is essential.

2.1.6 *Full-Wave (Sensitive Tint) Plate*, having a retardation of 565 nm which produces, with white light, a violet-red color. It should be housed in a rotatable mount capable of being locked in a fixed position.

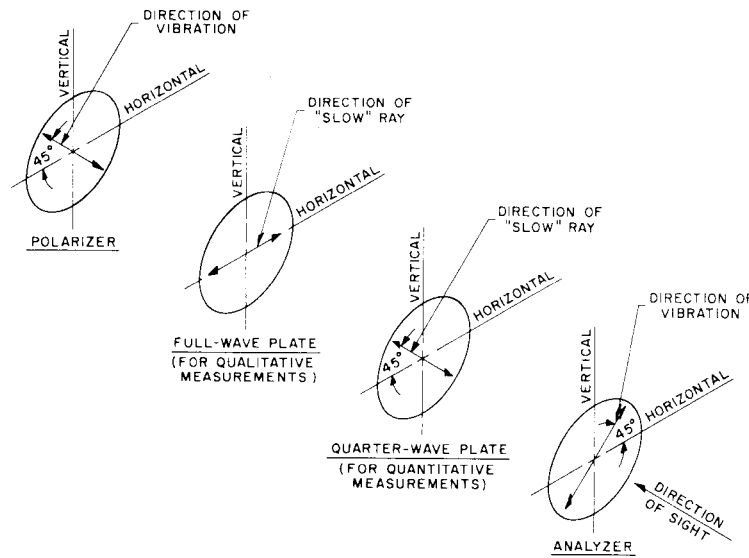
2.1.7 *Quarter-Wave Plate*, having a retardation equivalent to one quarter of the wavelength of light being used. It should be housed in a rotatable mount capable of being locked in a fixed position.

2.1.8 *Analyzer*—Identical to the polarizer. It should be housed in a rotatable mount capable of being locked in a fixed position. This mount must then be housed within a graduated mount capable of being rotated 360°.

2.1.9 *Telescope*, short-focus, having a suitable magnifying power over the usable focusing range.

3. Setup of Polarimeter

3.1 As usually employed, the polarimeter measures retardations in a vertical or a horizontal direction. This is accomplished by setting the vibration direction of the polarizer at an angle of 45° to the vertical and horizontal in either a northwest-southeast or a northeast-southwest direction (Fig. 2). The



NOTE 1—The directions of vibration of the polarizer and analyzer may be oriented 90° from the indicated positions.
FIG. 2 Orientation of Polarimeter in Standard Position

vibration direction of the analyzer must be “crossed” with respect to that of the polarizer; that is, the two directions must be at right angles to each other. In this relationship a minimum amount of light will pass through the combination. To check the 45° angle at which the directions of the polarizer and analyzer must be set, use may be made of a rectangular-shaped Glan-Thompson or Nicol prism. The prism is set so that its vibration direction is 45° to the vertical and horizontal. The polarizer is then rotated until extinction occurs between it and the prism. The position of the analyzer is then determined in the same way, but by first rotating the Glan-Thompson or Nicol prism through 90°; or, the analyzer may be rotated to extinction with respect to the polarizer after the latter has been set in position with the prism.

3.2 When a quarter-wave plate is used, its “slow” ray direction must be set in a northwest-southeast direction (Fig. 2). Adjusted in this position, maximum extinction occurs when direction of axes of all three elements (polarizer, analyzer and quarter-wave plate) are in agreement with Fig. 2.

3.3 When the full-wave plate is used with the quarter-wave plate, its “slow” ray direction must be placed in a horizontal position (Fig. 2). Adjusted in this position, a violet-red back-

ground color is seen when the three elements (polarizer, full-wave plate, and analyzer) are placed in series.

3.4 Paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 describe orientations of the quarter- and full-wave plates in the standard positions that have been generally adopted. However, the direction of the “slow” rays may be rotated 90° without changing the functions of the apparatus. This does, however, cause the analyzer rotations (in the case of the quarter-wave plate) and the colors (in the case of the full-wave plate) to have opposite meanings. Table 1 and Table 2 define these meanings in whatever is being measured or observed with the “slow” ray directions in either the standard or the alternate positions.

3.5 To assure proper orientation of the directions of the “slow” ray of the quarter-wave and full-wave plates with respect to the vibration directions of the polarizer and analyzer, use may be made of a U-shaped piece of annealed cane glass as illustrated in Fig. 3. Squeezing the legs together slightly will develop a tensile stress on the outside and a compressive stress on the inside. Then, if the “slow” ray directions of the quarter-wave and full-wave plates are oriented in the standard positions, the stress conditions of Columns 1 through 4 and 9 through 12 of Table 1 and Table 2 will be noted in the vertical

TABLE 1 Orientation of “Slow” Ray Direction of Quarter-Wave Plate with Corresponding Stresses

When orientation of “slow” ray with respect to the horizontal is:	(standard)				(alternate)			
	vertical		horizontal		vertical		horizontal	
and when stress component lies in the								
then rotation ^A of analyzer:	clockwise	counter-clockwise	clockwise	counter-clockwise	clockwise	counter-clockwise	clockwise	counter-clockwise
indicates:	tension	compression	compression	tension	compression	tension	tension	compression
column: (see 3.5)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

^A If the analyzer must be rotated in a clockwise direction to obtain extinction at a given point, the retardation is arbitrarily called positive (+). If the analyzer must be rotated in a counterclockwise direction, the retardation is arbitrarily negative (-).