



Designation: D 4642 – 92 (Reapproved 1998)

Standard Test Method for Platinum in Reforming Catalysts by Wet Chemistry¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 4642; 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 approval. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the determination of platinum in nonzeolitic, fresh reforming catalysts containing platinum as the only precious metal, in the range of concentration of 0.200 to 0.700 weight %.

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. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 1193 Specification for Reagent Water²

E 177 Practice for Use of the Terms Precision and Bias in ASTM Test Methods³

E 288 Specification for Laboratory Glass Volumetric Flasks³

E 456 Terminology Relating to Quality and Statistics³

E 691 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Determine the Precision of a Test Method³

2.2 U.S. Federal Specification:

NNN-P-395C Tolerance for Class A Pipets⁴

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 The ground alumina based reforming catalyst is dissolved using dilute hydrochloric acid. Stannous chloride is added to convert the platinum in solution to a yellowish-orange-colored platinum stannous hydrochloride complex. The absorbance of the resulting solution is measured comparatively at 403 nm by spectrophotometry and the platinum content is calculated from a previously determined value for the absorptivity.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This test method provides a means of determining the platinum content of fresh reforming catalysts where the platinum is supported on an all alumina substrate.⁵

4.2 This test method is not intended to cover samples containing metals other than platinum. Palladium, rhenium, and rhodium in particular interfere with the spectrophotometric determination of platinum.

5. Apparatus

5.1 *Balance*, analytical, capable of weighing to the nearest 0.1 mg.

5.2 *Beakers*, 250-mL, tall form and 600-mL.

5.3 *Cells*, spectrophotometer, 1.0 cm, matched.

5.4 *Crucibles*, platinum, or porcelain, 50-mL.

5.5 *Desiccator*, vacuum.

5.6 *Filter Paper*, fine, ashless, slow filtering, 12.5 cm or equivalent.

5.7 *Flasks*, volumetric, conforming to tolerances specified by Specification E 288, 500-mL and 1000-mL.

5.8 *Funnel*, filtering, fluted bowl, 65 mm top diameter, 150 mm stem.

5.9 *Graduated Cylinders*, 10-mL, 25-mL, 50-mL, 250-mL.

5.10 *Pipets*, conforming to tolerances specified by Federal Specification NNN-P-395C, 5-mL, 10-mL, 15-mL.

5.11 *Muffle Furnace*, capable of $1000^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 25^{\circ}\text{C}$.

5.12 *Spectrophotometer*, capable of measuring absorbance values between 200 to 800 nm with a photometric repeatability of ± 0.002 absolute at 1.0 absolute.

5.13 *Watch Glass*, flat, 100 mm.

5.14 *Watch Glass*, ribbed, 65 mm.

5.15 *Wash Bottle*, polyethylene, 500-mL.

5.16 *Weighing Vial*, 25 by 40 mm.

6. Reagents

6.1 *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,

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D-32 on Catalysts and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D32.03 on Chemical Composition.

Current edition approved Jan. 15, 1992. Published March 1992. Originally published as D 4642 – 86. Last previous edition D 4642 – 92.

² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 11.01.

³ *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 14.02.

⁴ Available from Standardization Documents Order Desk, Bldg. 4 Section D, 700 Robbins Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094, Attn: NPODS.

⁵ The method can be extended to spent reforming catalyst by isolating the platinum by the methods described in *Analytical Chemistry*, Vol 32, No. 6, May 1960, p. 646, "Assay Procedure for Platinum in Reforming Catalysts."