Designation: D2789 – 95(Reapproved 2011)

Standard Test Method for Hydrocarbon Types in Low Olefinic Gasoline by Mass Spectrometry[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D2789; 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 the determination by mass spectrometry of the total paraffins, monocycloparaffins, dicycloparaffins, alkylbenzenes, indans or tetralins or both, and naphthalenes in gasoline having an olefin content of less than 3 volume % and a 95 % distillation point of less than 210°C (411°F) as determined in accordance with Test Method D86. Olefins are determined by Test Method D1319, or by Test Method D875.

1.2 It has not been determined whether this test method is applicable to gasoline containing oxygenated compounds (for example, alcohols and ethers).

1.3 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

1.4 *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:*[2]

D86 Test Method for Distillation of Petroleum Products at Atmospheric Pressure

D875 Method for Calculating of Olefins and Aromatics in Petroleum Distillates from Bromine Number and Acid Absorption (Withdrawn 1984)[3]

D1319 Test Method for Hydrocarbon Types in Liquid Petroleum Products by Fluorescent Indicator Adsorption

D2001 Test Method for Dependentanization of Gasoline and Naphthas

D2002 Practice for Isolation of Representative Saturates Fraction from Low-Olefinic Petroleum Naphthas (Withdrawn 1998)[3]

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 The summations of characteristic mass fragments are defined as follows (equations are identical to those in 11.1):

$$\sum 43\ (\text{paraffins}) = \text{total peak height of } m/e^{+}\ 43+57+71+85+99. \quad (1)$$

$$\sum 41\ (\text{monocycloparaffins}) = \text{total peak height of } m/e^{+}\ 41+55+69+83+97. \quad (2)$$

$$\sum 67\ (\text{dicycloparaffins}) = \text{total peak height of } m/e^{+}\ 67+68+81+82+95+96. \quad (3)$$

$$\sum 77\ (\text{alkylbenzenes}) = \text{total peak height of } m/e^{+}\ 77+78+79+91+92+105+106+119+120+133+134+147+148+161+162. \quad (4)$$

$$\sum 103\ (\text{indans and tetralins}) = \text{total peak height of } m/e^{+}\ 103+104+117+118+131+132+145+146+159+160. \quad (5)$$

$$\sum 128\ (\text{naphthalenes}) = \text{total peak height of } m/e^{+}\ 128+141\pm142+155+156. \quad (6)$$

$$T = \text{total ion intensity} = \sum 41+\sum 43+\sum 67+\sum 77+\sum 103+\sum 128. \quad (7)$$

3.1.2 *carbon number*—by definition, is the average number of carbon atoms in the sample.

3.1.3 *mass number*—with a plus sign as superscript, is defined as the peak height associated with the same mass number.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 Samples are analyzed by mass spectrometry, based on the summation of characteristic mass fragments, to determine the concentration of the hydrocarbon types. The average number of carbon atoms of the sample is estimated from

[1] This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.04.0M on Mass Spectroscopy.

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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] The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

spectral data. Calculations are made from calibration data which are dependent upon the average number of carbon atoms of the sample. Results are expressed in liquid volume percent.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 A knowledge of the hydrocarbon composition of gasoline process streams, blending stocks and finished motor fuels is useful in following the effect of changes in plant operating conditions, diagnosing process upsets, blending finished products and in evaluating the relationship between composition and performance properties.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Mass Spectrometer*—Any mass spectrometer that passes the performance test described in Section 8.

NOTE 1—Calibration and precision data for this method were obtained on Consolidated Electrodynamics Corp. Type 21-101, 21-102, and 21-103 mass spectrometers. These instruments operated with an ion source temperature at or near 250°C and at a constant magnetic field of about 3100 to 3500 gauss. Laboratories using either Consolidated Electrodynamics Corp. mass spectrometers that operate with different parameters or instruments other than this design should check the applicability of the calibration data in Table 1. If necessary, individual laboratories should develop their own calibration data using the blends described in Table 2.

6.2 *Sample Inlet System*—Any sample inlet system that allows the introduction of the text mixture (8.2) without loss, contamination, or change of composition.

NOTE 2—Laboratory testing has shown that, unless a special sampling technique or a heated inlet system is used, relatively large errors will occur in the determination of small quantities of indans, tetralins, and naphthalenes.

6.3 *Manometer*—A manometer suitable for direct reading in the 0 to 100-mtorr (0 to 13-Pa) range is optional.

NOTE 3—The expression mtorr as used in this procedure replaces the older μ (micron) unit of pressure.

6.4 *Microburet or Constant-Volume Pipet.*

7. Reference Standards

7.1 Samples of the following hydrocarbons will be required: 2-methylpentane, 2,4-dimethylpentane, *n*-octane, methylcyclopentane, methylcyclohexane, *cis*-1,2-dimethylcyclohexane, benzene, toluene, and *p*-xylene (**Warning**—Extremely flammable liquids. Benzene is a poison, carcinogen, and is harmful or fatal if swallowed.). Only reagent grade chemicals conforming to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical

TABLE 1 Calibration Data

	∑43/*T*	∑41/*T*	∑67/*T*	∑77/*T*	∑103/*T*	∑128/*T*	Reference[A]
Paraffins:							
C_6	0.6949	0.3025	0.0019	0.0006	...	...	(1)
C_7	0.7379	0.2583	0.0027	0.0010	...	...	(3)
C_8	0.7592	0.2362	0.0032	0.0014	...	...	(3)
C_9	0.7462	0.2350	0.0052	0.0021	...	0.0113	(12)
C_{10}	0.7772	0.2007	0.0056	0.0014	...	0.0151	(13)
Monocycloparaffins:							
C_6	0.1234	0.8218	0.0460	0.0086	...	...	(1)
C_7	0.0731	0.8213	0.0952	0.0104	...	...	(3)
C_8	0.0737	0.8279	0.0866	0.0117	...	...	(3)
C_9	0.0884	0.8029	0.0942	0.0140	0.0003	0.0003	(12)
C_{10}	0.1471	0.6272	0.2176	0.0080	...	...	(13)
Dicycloparaffins:							
C_8	0.0057	0.1848	0.7843	0.0246	0.0004	...	(4)
C_9	0.0171	0.2270	0.7070	0.0483	0.0005	...	(5)
C_{10}	0.0114	0.2973	0.6582	0.0324	0.0006	...	(6)
Alkylbenzenes:							
C_6	0.0004	0.0004	...	0.9992	...	...	(2)
C_7	0.0146	0.0120	0.0007	0.9726	...	...	(3)
C_8	0.0033	0.0112	0.0007	0.9488	0.0359	...	(3)
C_9	0.0061	0.0218	0.0020	0.9103	0.0598	...	(12)
C_{10}	0.0095	0.0350	0.0025	0.8656	0.0839	0.0034	(13)
Indans and tetralins:							
C_9	0.0144	0.0101	0.0002	0.1600	0.8154	...	(7)
C_{10}	0.0062	0.0123	0.0044	0.2314	0.7236	0.0222	(8)
C_{11}	0.0231	0.0199	0.0017	0.1619	0.7456	0.0477	(9)
Naphthalenes:							
C_{10}	0.0121	0.0037	0.0008	0.0581	0.0065	0.9188	(10)
C_{11}	0.0702	0.0140	0.0011	0.0172	0.0018	0.8957	(11)

[A] References to source of calibration data:
(1) National cooperative by letter of Nov. 22, 1965.
(2) Local task group cooperative by meeting of March 1966.
(3) National cooperative by letter of Aug. 6, 1962.
(4) API No. 448, 100 %, bicyclo-(3.3.0)-octane.
(5) Shell data, 100 %, for 1-methyl-cis-(3.3.0)-bicyclooctane.
(6) API No. 412, 100 %, trans-decalin.
(7) Unweighted API No. 413 and No. 1214 spectra of indan.
(8) API No. 1103, 13 %; API No. 1104, 13 %; API No. 941, 37 %; API No. 539, 37 %.
(9) Unweighted averages of API Nos. 1216, 1106, 1107, 1108, 1109.
(10) Unweighted average of local task group (3 laboratories) data.
(11) Unweighted average of API No. 990 and No. 991.
(12) National cooperative by letter of Oct. 11, 1967.
(13) Proposed Method of Test for Hydrocarbon Types in Low Olefinic Gasoline by Mass Spectrometry; Appendix VII D2-1958.

TABLE 2 Compositions of Calibration Mixtures

Component (Volume Percent)	Paraffins	Cyclo-paraffins	Cyclo-Alkyl-benzenes
C_6 Blends			
n-Hexane	46	...	...
2-Methylpentane	28	...	...
3-Methylpentane	20	...	...
2-2-Dimethylbutane	1	...	...
2,3-Dimethylbutane	5	...	...
Cyclohexane	...	46	...
Methylcyclopentane	...	54	...
Benzene	...	...	100
C_7 Blends			
n-Heptane	45	...	...
2-Methylhexane	23	...	...
3-Methylhexane	16	...	...
2,2-Dimethylpentane	4	...	...
2,3-Dimethylpentane	6	...	...
2,4-Dimethylpentane	5	...	...
3,3-Dimethylpentane	1	...	...
Methylcyclohexane	...	57	...
Ethylcyclopentane	...	9	...
1,1-Dimethylcyclopentane	...	4	...
1,*t*-2-Dimethylcyclopentane	...	14	...
1,*t*-3-Dimethylcyclopentane	...	16	...
Toluene	...	...	100
C_8 Blends			
n-Octane	39	...	...
2-Methylheptane	19	...	...
3-Methylheptane	16	...	...
4-Methylheptane	8	...	...
3-Ethylhexane	3	...	...
2,3-Dimethylhexane	4	...	...
2,4-Dimethylhexane	5	...	...
2,5-Dimethylhexane	6	...	...
Ethylcyclohexane	...	20	...
1,*t*-2-Dimethylcyclohexane	...	18	...
1,*c*-3-Dimethylcyclohexane	...	25	...
1,*t*-4-Dimethylcyclohexane	...	11	...
1-Methyl-*c*-2-ethylcyclopentane	...	7	...
1,1,3-Trimethylcyclopentane	...	5	...
1,*t*-2,*c*-3-Trimethylcyclopentane	...	9	...
1,*t*-2,*c*-4-Trimethylcyclopentane	...	5	...
Ethylbenzene	...	...	10
p-Xylene	...	...	23
m-Xylene	...	...	46
o-Xylene	...	...	21

Component (Volume Percent)	Paraffins	Cyclo-paraffins	Alkyl-benzenes
C_9 Blends			
n-Nonane	33	...	...
2-Methyloctane	20	...	...
3-Methyloctane	16	...	...
4-Methyloctane	8	...	...
3-Ethylheptane	3	...	...
2,6-Dimethylheptane	12	...	...
2,2-Dimethylheptane	2	...	...
3,3-Diethylpentane	1	...	...
2,2,5-Trimethylhexane	2	...	...
2,2,5-Trimethylhexane	1	...	...
2,4-Dimethyl-3-ethylpentane	1	...	...
2,2,3,3-Tetramethylpentane	1	...	...
n-Propylcyclohexane	...	1	...
Isopropylcyclohexane	...	2	...
1-Methyl-*c*-2-ethylcyclohexane	...	3	...
1-Methyl-*t*-2-ethylcyclohexane	...	4	...
1-Methyl-*c*-3-ethylcyclohexane	...	8	...
1-Methyl-*t*-3-ethylcyclohexane	...	8	...
1-Methyl-*c*-4-ethylcyclohexane	...	4	...
1-Methyl-*t*-4-ethylcyclohexane	...	5	...
1,*c*-2, *c*-3-trimethylcyclohexane	...	2	...
1,*t*-2, *t*-3-trimethylcyclohexane	...	3	...
1,*t*-2,*c*-3-trimethylcyclohexane	...	3	...
1,*t*-2,*c*-4-trimethylcyclohexane	...	15	...
1,*t*-2,*t*-4-trimethylcyclohexane	...	15	...
1,*c*-3,*c*-5-trimethylcyclohexane	...	5	...
1,*c*-3,*t*-5-trimethylcyclohexane	...	5	...
n-Butylcyclopentane	...	1	...
1,*c*-2-Diethylcyclopentane	...	12	...
1,*t*-2,*c*-3,*t*-4-tetramethylcyclopentane	...	4	...
n-Propylbenzene	...	...	3
Isopropylbenzene	...	...	1
1-Methyl-2-ethylbenzene	...	...	8
1-Methyl-3-ethylbenzene	...	...	19
1-Methyl-4-ethylbenzene	...	...	11
1,2,3-Trimethylbenzene	...	...	10
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	...	...	36
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	...	...	12

Reagents of the American Chemical Society,[4] National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standard hydrocarbon samples, or other hydrocarbons of equal purity should be used.

8. Performance Test

8.1 *Calibration for Test Mixture*—Calibrate the instrument in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for the compounds listed in 7.1, using the same manipulative technique as described in 10.2. Express the calibration data in units of peak height per unit of liquid volume (V) at constant sensitivity. Determine $\sum 41/V$, $\sum 43/V$, and $\sum 77/V$ for each of the reference standards and calculate a weighted average value for each hydrocarbon group type in accordance with the composition of the test mixture as described in 8.2. Construct an inverse from the averaged coefficients.

NOTE 4—The volume, V, ordinarily is expressed as microlitres.

NOTE 5—A desk calculator frequently is used for the calculation of 8.1 and in such cases small inverse terms can be undesirable. If necessary, it is permissible to divide all averaged coefficients by some suitable constant prior to inversion in order to obtain larger values in the inverse.

8.2 *Test Mixture*—Prepare the synthetic mixture by weight from reference standards[4] to obtain a final composition approximating the following but accurately known within ± 0.07 %:

Reference Standard	Liquid Volume Percent in Mixture	Approximate Weight in Grams to Give 5 mL of Mixture
2-Methylpentane	7.2	0.237

[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.