



~~Designation: D167-12~~ Designation: D167 – 12a

Standard Test Method for Apparent and True Specific Gravity and Porosity of Lump Coke¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D167; 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 of apparent specific gravity (Sections 2 to 4) and true specific gravity (Sections 4 to 6) of lump coke larger than 25-mm (1-in.) size and calculating porosity (Section 6) from the specific gravity data.

1.2 The values given in SI units shall be regarded as the standard. Inch-pound units shall be accepted on an equivalent basis.

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

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

D121 [Terminology of Coal and Coke](#)

D346 [Practice for Collection and Preparation of Coke Samples for Laboratory Analysis](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of terms used in this test method, refer to D121 Terminology of Coal and Coke.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Apparent and true specific gravity, as determined by this test method, are influenced by the type of coals carbonized and the operating and preparational conditions of that carbonization, that is, charge bulk density, heating rate, and pulverization level. In turn, these properties directly influence the performance in processes using coke.

APPARENT SPECIFIC GRAVITY

5. Apparatus

5.1 The apparatus for the determination of the apparent specific gravity of coke shall consist of the following:

5.1.1 *An Elliptical or Rectangular Cross-Sectioned Container*, approximately 560 mm (22 in.) in length, 280 mm (11 in.) in width, and a minimum of 330 mm (13 in.) in height, provided with a spout consisting of a short 13-mm ($\frac{1}{2}$ -in.) nipple extending horizontally from the container about 270 mm (10½ in.) above the bottom.

5.1.2 *Wire Cage or Basket*, of about 13-mm ($\frac{1}{2}$ -in.) square-mesh screen wire cloth provided with a cover and two long handles, suitable for holding the entire sample of coke and so made as to fit inside the container below the spout.

5.1.3 *Bucket or Other Vessel*, 11-L (3-gal), suitable for receiving the displaced water.

5.1.4 *Pan*, about 380 mm (15 in.) square and 76 mm (3 in.) in height or the equivalent for containing the coke during the determination of its weight.

5.1.5 *Balance*, sensitive to 0.05 kg (0.1 lb).

6. Sampling at Source

6.1 When the porosity test is desired on run-of-oven coke, the sample shall be collected from the coke wharf.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D05 on Coal and Coke and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D05.15 on Metallurgical Properties of Coal and Coke.

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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.

6.1.1 *By-Product Coke*—About 23 kg (50 lb) of representative pieces of coke shall be selected from the coke wharf for each test. This is best accomplished by dividing the coke on the wharf into approximately equal areas and selecting an equal number of pieces from each area. Each piece of coke selected shall be approximately equal in length to one half of the width of the coke ovens, and shall show a “cauliflower” end produced at the walls of the ovens, and an “inner” end produced at the center of the ovens.

7. Sampling at Delivery

7.1 If the porosity test is desired on coke for furnace or cupola use, the sample shall be representative of the material in question and collected at the place of delivery.

7.1.1 *By-Product*—The sample is best collected as the coke is delivered from the railroad cars into the bins. This can be accomplished by securing a representative sample of 4.5 to 6.8 kg (10 to 15 lb) capacity in the coke stream at regular intervals during the period of unloading. The sample collected shall be large enough to give about 23 kg (50 lb) of coke pieces, none of which would in any position pass through a 25-mm (1-in.) square-mesh sieve.

NOTE 1—Since the cage or basket is of 13-mm (½-in.) square-mesh screen wire cloth, it is necessary to have pieces that will remain in the cage when it is removed from the water.

7.1.2 Since it is very difficult to collect a representative sample from coke exposed in bins and cars, care shall be taken to take pieces representing the entire exposed area, if sampling must be done in this manner. It is best accomplished by dividing the exposed surface to be sampled into approximately equal areas, and selecting an equal number of pieces from each area. A 23-kg (50-lb) sample of representative pieces shall be collected, none of which shall in any position pass through a 25-mm (1-in.) square-mesh sieve.

8. Calibration

~~8.1 Calibrate the Hogarth specific gravity bottle to determine the mass of the bottle and the distilled water required to fill it (variable *P*). This can be done by (1) constructing a table graph of actual mass measurements of the bottle filled with distilled water at various temperatures or (2) using the data in the tables of corrections for determining the true capacities of glass vessels from the mass of water in air (Lange or CRC Handbooks).~~

9. Procedure

98.1 Select about 11.4 kg (25 lb) of coke from the sample so that it is representative of the material under consideration with regard to size, shape, and general appearance. Dry the coke to constant mass at a temperature of 105 to 200°C. Weigh the coke when cool, after shaking and brushing off any adhering dust.

9.2 Place a cork in the spout of the container, which has been placed on a level and rigid base or floor. After the empty cage has been placed into the container, pour water at room temperature into the container until the water level is above the spout. After the water has come to rest, remove the cork from the spout and permit the excess water to drain out for 1 min after the overflow stream starts to discharge drop by drop. Then replace the cork and remove the cage from the water, care being taken to shake all adhering water back into the container. Then place the weighed dried coke sample into the cage and after fastening the cover, lower the cage containing the coke into the water. If there is not sufficient capacity in the container above the spout to retain the displaced water, some of the water may be drawn off into a weighed bucket, or other suitable vessel, by removing the cork from the spout while the coke is being lowered.

98.3 Permit the cage to remain in the water for 15 min, with occasional shaking to detach any air bubbles adhering to the surface of the coke, care being taken not to disturb the position of the container. At the end of the 15-min period, during which the coke shall have been completely submerged at all times, remove the cork after the water has come to rest and permit the displaced water to drain into a weighed bucket or other suitable vessel for 1 min after the overflow stream starts to discharge drop by drop. Replace the cork, remove the cage containing the coke from the water, and permit it to drain for 1 min. Remove the wet coke from the cage and weigh it.

98.4 Determine the mass of the displaced water, which has been caught in the bucket.

10. Calculation

10.1 Calculate the apparent specific gravity as follows:

$$\text{Apparent specific gravity} = A/[B + (C - A)] \quad (1)$$

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where:

A = mass of dry coke,

B = mass of water displaced by wet coke, and

C = mass of wet coke.