



Standard Test Method for Ultraviolet Absorbance and Absorptivity of Petroleum Products¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This test method covers the measurement of the ultraviolet absorption of a variety of petroleum products. It covers the absorbance of liquids or the absorptivity of liquids and solids, or both, at wavelengths in the region from 220 to 400 nm of the spectrum.

1.2 The use of this test method implies that the conditions of measurement—wavelength, solvent (if any), sample path length, and sample concentration—are specified by reference to one of the examples of the application of this test method in the annexes or by a statement of other conditions of measurement.

1.3 Examples of the application of this test method are the determination of the absorbance of white mineral oil, the absorptivity of refined petroleum wax, and the absorptivity of USP petrolatum.

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as the standard. The values stated in fahrenheit, feet, and inches, indicated in parentheses, are for information only.

1.5 *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.* For specific warning statements, see 7.3.1, 7.3.3, and 13.4.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

D 1193 Specification for Reagent Water²

E 131 Terminology Relating to Molecular Spectroscopy³

E 169 Practices for General Techniques of Ultraviolet-Visible Quantitative Analysis³

E 275 Practice for Describing and Measuring Performance of Ultraviolet, Visible, and Near-Infrared Spectrophotometers³

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² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 11.01.

³ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 03.06.

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—Definitions of terms and symbols relating to absorption spectroscopy in this test method shall conform to Terminology E 131. Terms of particular significance are the following:

3.1.1 *radiant energy, n*—energy transmitted as electromagnetic waves.

3.1.2 *radiant power, P, n*—the rate at which energy is transported in a beam of radiant energy.

3.1.3 *transmittance, T, n*—the molecular property of a substance that determines its transportability of radiant power, expressed by:

$$T = \frac{P}{P_o} \quad (1)$$

where:

P = the radiant power passing through the sample and

P_o = the radiant power incident upon the sample.

3.1.4 *absorbance, A, n*—the molecular property of a substance that determines its ability to take up radiant power, expressed by:

$$A = \log_{10}(1/T) = -\log_{10}T \quad (2)$$

where T is the transmittance as defined in 3.1.3.

3.1.4.1 *Discussion*—Absorbance expresses the excess absorption over that of a specified reference or standard. It is implied that compensation has been affected for reflectance losses, solvent absorption losses, and refractive effects, if present, and that attenuation by scattering is small compared with attenuation by absorption.

3.1.5 *dilution factor, f, n*—the proportion of solvent increase made to reduce the concentration and thus the absorbance of a solute, expressed by the ratio of the volume of the diluted solution to the volume of original solution containing the same quantity of solute as the diluted solution.

3.1.6 *absorptivity, a, n*—the specific property of a substance to absorb radiant power per unit sample concentration and path length, expressed by:

$$a = A/fbc \quad (3)$$

where:

A = the absorbance defined in 3.1.4,

- f = the dilution factor defined in 3.1.5,
 b = sample cell path length, and
 c = the quantity of absorbing substance contained in a volume of solvent.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *sample cell pathlength, b , n* —the distance in cm, measured in the direction of propagation of the beam of radiant energy, between the surface of the specimen on which the radiant energy is incident and the surface of the specimen from which it is emergent.

3.2.1.1 *Discussion*—This distance does not include the thickness of the cell in which the specimen is contained.

3.2.2 *concentration, c , n* —the quantity of absorbing substance in grams per litre.

4. Summary of Test Method

4.1 The ultraviolet absorbance of a liquid is determined by measuring the absorption spectrum of the undiluted liquid in a cell of known path length under specified conditions.

4.2 The ultraviolet absorptivity of a solid or a liquid is determined by measuring the absorbance, at specified wavelengths, of a solution of the liquid or solid at known concentration in a cell of known path length.

5. Significance and Use

5.1 The absorbance of liquids and the absorptivity of liquid and solids at specified wavelengths in the ultraviolet are useful in characterizing petroleum products.

6. Apparatus

6.1 *Spectrophotometer*, equipped to handle liquid samples in cells having sample path lengths up to 10 cm and capable of measuring absorbance in the spectral region from 220 to 400 nm with a spectral slit width of 2 nm or less. Wavelength measurement shall be repeatable and known to be accurate within ± 0.2 nm or less as measured by the mercury emission line at 313.16 nm. At the 0.4 absorbance level in the spectral region between 220 and 400 nm, absorbance measurements shall be repeatable within ± 1.0 %.

6.2 For recommended methods of testing spectrophotometers to be used in this test method, refer to Practice E 275.

6.3 An instrument is considered suitable when it can be operated in a manner to give test results equivalent to those described in 6.1.

6.4 Measurements requiring the use of cells having sample path lengths less than 10 cm can be made on instruments equipped to handle only these cells. It is desirable, but not essential, that the instrument be automatic recording when an extended range of the spectrum must be examined. Manually operated spectrometers are suitable for obtaining absorbance readings at specified analytical wavelengths. If measurements are to be made at temperatures higher than room temperature, the spectrophotometer must be provided with a means for maintaining cells at the selected test temperature.

6.5 One or more pairs of fused silica cells having sample path lengths in the range from 0.1000 to 10.00 cm are required. Sample path lengths must be known to within ± 0.5 % of nominal sample path length or better. Unless otherwise speci-

fied, 1-cm sample path length cells are recommended. Suitable procedures for testing and cleaning cells are described in Practice E 275.

7. Reagents and Materials

7.1 *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, where such specifications are available.⁴ Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

7.2 *Purity of Water*—Unless otherwise indicated, references to water shall be understood to mean reagent water conforming to Specification D 1193, Type III.

7.3 Solvents:

7.3.1 *Isooctane*—(**Warning**—Extremely flammable, harmful if inhaled.), for use as the preferred spectroscopic solvent.

7.3.2 Technical isooctane is a satisfactory base stock for the preparation of spectroscopic solvent. Allow about 4 or 5 L of this material to percolate through a column of activated silica gel 50 to 75 mm (2 to 3 in.) in diameter and 0.6 to 0.9 m (2 to 3 ft) in depth. Collect only the portion of the solvent that has an absorbance less than 0.05 over the entire spectral range from 240 to 300 nm in a 1-cm cell when compared to water in a 1-cm cell.

7.3.3 *Decahydronaphthalene* —(*Decalin*)—(**Warning**—Combustible, vapors harmful.), for use as the first alternative spectroscopic solvent.

7.3.4 The silica gel percolation described in 7.3.2 is also recommended for the preparation of decahydronaphthalene as a spectroscopic solvent.

7.3.5 Some common, commercially available solvents of “spectroscopic purity” are listed in Practices E 169. One of them can be selected for use in absorptivity measurements but only when indicated in Section 13.

8. Sampling

8.1 Precautions must be taken to ensure that a representative sample is obtained since ultraviolet absorption is very sensitive to small amounts of extraneous material contaminating the sample through careless handling. If possible, samples should be obtained from packaged products that have been protected from accidental contamination.

8.2 If the petroleum product to be tested is available as a bulk sample weighing more than 1 kg, a representative sample of approximately 1 kg shall be taken and made homogeneous.

8.3 If the petroleum product to be tested is available as a bulk sample weighing less than 1 kg but more than 100 g, the entire sample shall be taken and made homogeneous.

⁴ “Reagent Chemicals, American Chemical Society Specifications,” Am. Chemical Soc., Washington, D.C. For suggestions on the testing of reagents not listed by the American Chemical Society, see “Reagent Chemicals and Standards,” by Joseph Rosin, D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., New York, NY, and the “United States Pharmacopeia.”

8.4 In no case shall a sample of a petroleum product be considered representative if it weighs less than 100 g. However, measurements may be made on samples weighing less than 100 g if the origin, sampling procedure, and basis of selection of the sample are recorded and reported as part of the results of this test method.

ABSORBANCE OF UNDILUTED LIQUIDS

9. Procedure

9.1 Fill a 1.0-cm reference cell with water. Make sure the cell windows are clean. Position the cells in the cell compartment of the spectrophotometer and obtain absorbance at the wavelengths of interest within the range from 220 to 400 nm. This data gives a cell correction for the 1.0-cm cell. It can be ignored at all wavelengths where the absorbance is between -0.01 and $+0.01$. After the cell correction data has been determined, the cells shall be designated reference and sample cells and shall be maintained as such.

9.2 Fill a 1.0-cm sample cell with undiluted liquid sample (after complete removal of water) and obtain the absorbance as described in 9.1.

9.3 The absorbance-wavelength curve can be conveniently obtained starting at the long wavelength end of the spectrum. Take readings at successively shorter wavelengths until an absorbance greater than 1.0 is obtained. When using automatic recording instruments (recommended) make the cell correction scan and the sample scan on the same chart. In the longer wavelength region of the spectrum, it may be desirable to use longer path length cells than those recommended to obtain readable absorbances. See the applicable paragraph of Practices E 169. In the shorter wavelength region of the spectrum, absorbances can become too high for accurate measurement in the 0.1-cm cell. Record these values only as greater than 1.0. If numerical values are required it is recommended that absorptivity be measured rather than absorbance.

9.4 Repeat 9.1 and 9.2 using a 0.1-cm cell in place of the 1.0-cm cell (9.3). Record all measurements.

10. Calculation

10.1 Calculate the absorbance of an undiluted liquid sample at each analytical wavelength as follows:

$$A = A_L - A_C \quad (4)$$

where:

A = absorbance of undiluted liquid sample,

A_L = chart or absorbance reading of sample-filled sample cell, and

A_C = chart or absorbance reading of water-filled sample cell.

10.2 Calculate the absorbance per centimetre path length that is equal to A/b , where b is the sample cell path length in centimetres.

11. Report

11.1 If the numerical value of the absorbance of an undiluted liquid sample is reported, accompany it with a statement of the wavelength of measurement and the sample path length expressed in centimetres.

11.2 If the numerical value of the absorbance per centimetre of an undiluted liquid sample is reported, it must accompany it with a statement of the wavelength of measurement.

ABSORPTIVITY OF SOLIDS AND LIQUIDS

12. Summary of Test Methods

12.1 The range of absorptivities for petroleum products can be very wide. Probably most absorptivities of interest would fall in the range from 10^{-4} to 10 L/g·cm.

12.2 In determining absorptivities it is necessary to measure absorbances in the range from 0.1 to 1.0 for optimum results. This is done by preparing solutions and selecting cells of sample path length to give absorbances in the 0.1 to 1.0 range. For an individual petroleum product the absorptivity may change so rapidly with wavelength that it is necessary to prepare several solutions in order to cover the required wavelength interval. Consideration must be given to the selection of solvent, the selection of concentration levels, and the selection of sample paths lengths to obtain optimum results.

13. Selection of Solvent

13.1 Refer to the applicable section of Practices E 169 for a brief discussion of solvents for ultraviolet use. The choice of solvent is dictated by the solubility of the petroleum product and the transparency of the solvent in the region of interest.

13.2 Use *isooctane* unless restricted by solubility requirements.

13.3 Use decahydronaphthalene as the first alternative solvent to be used if the sample is not sufficiently soluble in *isooctane*.

13.4 If neither *isooctane* nor decahydronaphthalene will dissolve a sufficient quantity of sample to prepare the required solution, then one of the solvents listed in the table in Practices E 169. As indicated in the table in Practices E 169, not all of these solvents are usable over the entire spectral range covered by this test method. For the purposes of this test method a solvent shall be considered to have sufficient "spectroscopic purity" when its absorbance in a 1-cm cell, using reagent water in a 1-cm cell as a reference, is less than 0.05 at all wavelengths where a sample absorbance is to be measured in a 1-cm cell. Cyclohexane (**Warning**—Extremely flammable. Harmful if inhaled.), carbon tetrachloride, chloroform (**Warning**—Carbon tetrachloride and chloroform can be fatal if swallowed. Harmful if inhaled. Can produce toxic vapors if burned.), and the alcohols listed in the table in Practices E 169 are useful alternative spectroscopic solvents.

14. Selection of Solution Concentration

14.1 Select an initial concentration of the sample high enough to provide measurable absorbance (0.1 to 1.0) at the wavelength of weakest absorption to be measured but not over 40 g/L and necessarily within the solubility limitations of the solvent.

14.2 The lowest concentration that can be prepared conveniently in the initial solution is about 1 g/L. If the sample is not sufficiently soluble at room temperature to prepare such a solution, then proceed at elevated temperature in accordance with Section 16.

14.3 Table 1 lists four recommended concentration levels for the initial solution and the required sample weights and solution volumes. Column 4 gives the range of absorptivities that will give absorbance readings between 0.1 and 1.0 when the solution is measured in a 1-cm cell.

14.4 Select from Table 1 the concentration required to measure the lowest absorptivity of interest in the sample. Note the recommended sample weights and solution volumes. These shall be used in preparing the initial solution of the sample.

14.5 If concentration levels lower than 1 g/L are required because absorptivities at the wavelengths of interest exceed 1, prepare an initial solution at the 4 g/L level (Table 1) and dilute as follows: pipet 1 to 10 mL of the initial solution into a 25 to 100-mL volumetric flask to obtain a dilution factor in the range from 2.5 to 100. Select dilution factors to obtain an absorbance reading in the range from 0.1 to 1.0 at the wavelength of measurement.

NOTE 1—For example, 1 mL of the initial solution (4 g/L) pipetted into a 25-mL volumetric flask, which is then filled to the mark with solvent and shaken, will give a dilution factor of 25 and a concentration level of 0.160 g/L in the first dilution. Repeating this procedure on the first dilution would produce a second dilution containing 0.0064 g/L. The dilution factor for the second dilution would be 625.

15. Selection of Sample Path Length

15.1 Unless otherwise specified in a particular application of this test method, use a sample path length of 1.0 cm, and the alternative sample path length of 10.0 cm.

15.2 The procedures given in Sections 16 and 17 were written assuming the use of the recommended sample path length, 1 cm, and the use of the alternative sample path length, 10.0 cm. If in a particular application of this test method different sample path lengths are specified, the smaller shall become the recommended sample path length and shall be used where a 1.0-cm cell is specified. The larger shall become the alternative sample path length and shall be used where a 10.0-cm cell is specified.

16. Procedure at Room Temperature

16.1 Weigh by difference the recommended sample weight into the volumetric flask (see Table 1). Add solvent to partially fill the flask and shake to dissolve the sample. Fill to the mark with solvent. Mix well.

16.2 If sample does not go into solution rapidly, warm the solution by heating the flask under warm tap water. When the sample has dissolved, dilute to volume and shake to make homogeneous. Cool to room temperature. Add solvent to the mark.

16.3 Fill a 1.0-cm sample cell with the initial solution or dilution to be measured. Fill a 1.0-cm reference cell with solvent. Make sure the windows are clean. Position the cell in the cell compartment of spectrophotometer and measure the absorbance of the sample at wavelengths of interest within the range from 220 to 400 nm.

16.4 If the absorbance reading in the 1.0-cm cell is less than 0.1 at one or more of the wavelengths of interest, repeat 16.3 using a pair of 10-cm cells to obtain an absorbance reading in the 0.1 to 1.0 range.

16.5 If the absorbance reading in the 1.0-cm cell is greater than 1.0 at one or more of the wavelengths of interest, dilute to obtain absorbances in the readable range (0.1 to 1.0). Dilution factors of 2.5 to 100 can be obtained by pipetting volumes of 1 to 10 mL of the initial solution into 25 to 100-mL volumetric flasks and filling to the mark with solvent.

16.6 Determine the cell correction by measuring the absorbance of the solvent-filled sample cell compared to the solvent-filled reference cell.

17. Procedure at Elevated Temperature

17.1 If it is not possible to obtain a homogeneous solution of the sample at room temperature in the recommended solvents (16.2), it will be permissible to determine the absorbance at a test temperature high enough to ensure solubility. However, do not exceed 66°C (150°F).

17.2 Weigh by difference the recommended sample weight into a clean, calibrated volumetric flask and record the weight to the nearest 0.1 mg (see Table 1).

17.3 Partially fill the flask with solvent, and place the flask in a water bath at the test temperature. When the sample is completely dissolved, dilute to volume using solvent at the test temperature. Shake to make homogeneous and bring to the test temperature in a water bath.

17.4 Prepare spectrophotometer cell holders capable of maintaining the sample cell and reference cell at the desired test temperature.

17.5 Take proper precautions to ensure that the temperature of the solution at the time of absorbance measurement is within $\pm 1.1^\circ\text{C}$ (2°F) of the test temperature at which the solution was diluted to volume.

17.6 Transfer a sample of the solution (hypodermic syringe heated to the test temperature is convenient) into a 1.0-cm sample cell previously heated to the test temperature. Fill a 1.0-cm reference cell with solvent at the test temperature in a similar manner. Stopper the cells firmly. Make sure the cell windows are clean. Position the cells in the cell compartment of the spectrophotometer. Allow enough time for temperature equilibrium and obtain the absorbance as required at wavelengths of interest within the range from 220 to 400 nm.

17.7 If the absorbance reading in the 1.0-cm cell is less than 0.1 at one or more of the wavelengths of interest, repeat 17.6 using a pair of 10-cm cells to obtain an absorbance reading in the 0.1 to 1.0 range.

17.8 If the absorbance reading in the 1.0-cm cell is greater than 1.0 at one or more of the wavelengths of interest, prepare a second initial solution at a lower concentration level selected from Table 1. If this is not possible, repeat 17.6 using a pair of

TABLE 1 Recommended Sample Weights and Solution Volumes for Initial Solution of Sample

Concentration, g/L	Sample Weight, mg ^A	Volumetric Flask, mL	Range of Absorptivities Measurable in 1-cm Cell ^B
40	1000	25	0.0025 to 0.0250
10	250	25	0.010 to 0.100
4	100	25	0.025 to 0.250
1	100	100	0.100 to 1.000

^AThe sample should be weighed to the nearest 0.1 mg and be within $\pm 5\%$ of the nominal weight listed.

^BIf a 10-cm cell were used, the range of absorptivities measurable would be lowered by a factor of 10.

0.1 or 0.5-cm cells to obtain an absorbance reading in the 0.1 to 1.0 range. Record all readings.

17.9 Determine a cell correction by using solvent in the sample cell and compare it to the solvent-filled reference cell.

18. Calculation

18.1 Calculate the absorptivity, a , of a solid or liquid sample at the specified wavelength as follows:

$$a = Af/cb \quad (5)$$

where:

- A = absorbance of sample solution at specified wavelength minus cell correction,
- b = path length of sample cell in centimetres,
- c = concentration of sample in grams per litre of the initial solution, and
- f = dilution factor, the ratio of the volume of the diluted solution to the volume of the original solution containing the same quantity of solute as the diluted solution. For the initial solution, $f = 1$.

19. Report

19.1 Report numerical values of absorptivities along with a statement of the wavelength, solvent, concentration, and cell path length used in obtaining the absorbance measurement.

20. Precision and Bias

20.1 *Precision*—The precision for four specific petroleum products are given in A1.7 (for white mineral oil), in A2.5 (for refined petroleum wax), in A3.5 (for USP petrolatum), and in A4.5 (for nonstaining rubber processing or extender oils).

20.2 The precision for other petroleum products should be determined by cooperative testing on representative types of such other petroleum products.

20.3 *Bias*—Bias cannot be determined for these procedures since there are no acceptable reference standards.

21. Keywords

21.1 petroleum products; ultraviolet absorbance; ultraviolet absorptivity; ultraviolet spectroscopy

ANNEXES

(Mandatory Information)

A1. ABSORBANCE OF WHITE MINERAL OIL

A1.1 Scope

A1.1.1 As an example of the application of the general method for determining the absorbance of undiluted liquid samples, the absorbance of white mineral oil shall be determined at 275 nm in a 0.1-cm cell, in the region 295 to 299 nm in a 1-cm cell and in the region 300 to 400 nm in a 1-cm cell. The absorbances of the white mineral oil shall be compared with a standard reference absorption of a naphthalene solution at 275 nm.

A1.2 Reference Standard

A1.2.1 *Naphthalene*—High-purity, 99 + %.

A1.3 Standard Reference Absorption

A1.3.1 The standard reference absorption shall be absorption at 275 nm in a 1-cm cell of a solution containing 7 mg/L of naphthalene in *isooctane*.

A1.3.2 Since it is not convenient to prepare a solution containing exactly 7 mg of naphthalene per litre of *isooctane*, the absorptivity of a solution containing approximately this amount shall be measured and the standard reference absorption calculated. The absorptivity of naphthalene at 275 nm is approximately 43.

A1.3.3 Measure the absorptivity of a solution of naphthalene containing between 6 and 8 mg/L in *isooctane* in a 1-cm cell. Prepare the solution in accordance with 14.4 using a dilution factor of 625, and measure its absorbance at 275 nm in accordance with Section 16.

A1.4 Procedure

A1.4.1 Proceed in accordance with Section 10 using white mineral oil as the sample. For white mineral oil, scan the region 400 to 250 nm.

A1.5 Calculation

A1.5.1 Calculate the absorptivity of naphthalene at 275 nm as described in Section 18.

A1.5.2 Calculate the standard reference absorption as follows:

$$\text{Standard reference absorption} = 0.007 \alpha \quad (\text{A1.1})$$

where:

0.007 = concentration in grams per litre of naphthalene solution defining the standard reference absorption, and

α = measured absorptivity of naphthalene at 275 nm

A1.5.3 Proceed in accordance with 10.1 to determine the absorbance of mineral oil at 275 nm in the 0.1-cm cell, the maximum absorbance in the region 295 to 299 nm in the 1.0-cm cell, and the maximum absorbance in the region 300 to 400 nm in the 1.0-cm cell.

A1.6 Report

A1.6.1 Report the standard reference absorbance.

A1.6.2 Report the mineral oil absorbance as follows:

Wavelength, nm	Cell Length, cm	Absorbance
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275	0.1	—, max
295 to 299	1.0	—, max
300 to 400	1.0	—, max

275	0.008
295 to 299	0.019
300 to 400	0.014

A1.7 Precision and Bias

A1.7.1 The precision of this test method as obtained by statistical examination of interlaboratory test results is as follows:

A1.7.1.1 *Repeatability*—The difference between successive test results, obtained by the same operator with the same apparatus under constant operating conditions on identical test material, would in the long run, in the normal and correct operation of the test method, exceed the values shown in the following table only in one case in twenty.

Wavelength, nm	Repeatability
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A1.7.1.2 *Reproducibility*—The difference between two single and independent results, obtained by different operators working in different laboratories on identical test material, would in the long run, in the normal and correct operation of the test method, exceed the values shown in the following table only in one case in twenty.

Wavelength, nm	Reproducibility
275	0.053
295 to 299	0.071
300 to 400	0.080

A1.7.2 *Bias*—Bias cannot be determined for this procedure since there is no acceptable standard.

A2. ABSORPTIVITY OF REFINED PETROLEUM WAX

A2.1 Scope

A2.1.1 As an example of the application of the general method for determining the absorptivity of solids and liquids, the absorptivity of refined petroleum wax is determined at 290 nm. Under the conditions specified, this method covers the determination of absorptivities in the range from 0.01 to 1.0 L/g·cm.

A2.2 Procedure

A2.2.1 Follow the general method given in Section 15 for determining absorptivity at room temperature. The recommended sample weight shall be 100 mg dissolved in 100 mL of isooctane.⁵ Make absorbance measurements at 290 nm in 1.0 and 10.0-cm cells as described in Section 16.

A2.2.2 If the sample is not sufficiently soluble in isooctane, use the alternative solvent decahydronaphthalene.

A2.2.3 If the sample is not sufficiently soluble at room temperature in either isooctane or decahydronaphthalene, continue as described in Section 17.

A2.3 Calculation

A2.3.1 The absorptivity, a , of a wax is given in Eq 5.

A2.4 Report

A2.4.1 Report the absorptivities of waxes in the range from 0.01 to 1.0 to two significant figures. Report absorptivities less

than 0.01 as less than 0.01. Report absorptivities greater than 1.0 as greater than 1.0.

A2.5 Precision and Bias

A2.5.1 The precision of the method as obtained by statistical examination of interlaboratory test results is as follows:

A2.5.1.1 *Repeatability*—The difference between successive test results obtained by the same operator with the same apparatus under constant operating conditions on identical test material, would in the long run, in the normal and correct operation of the test method, exceed the values shown in the following table only in one case in twenty.

Absorptivity	Repeatability
0.02	...
0.15	0.02
0.30	0.02

A2.5.1.2 *Reproducibility*—The difference between two single and independent results, obtained by different operators working in different laboratories on identical test material, would in the long run, in the normal and correct operation of the test method, exceed the values shown in the following table only in one case in twenty.

Absorptivity	Reproducibility
0.02	...
0.15	0.05
0.30	0.05

A2.5.2 *Bias*—Bias cannot be determined for this procedure since there is no acceptable reference standard.

⁵ In the ASTM Emergency Method ES-50, Test for Ultraviolet Absorptivity of Waxes, the recommended sample weight was 57 to 67 mg dissolved in 50 mL of isooctane. See 1961 Book of ASTM Standards, Part 7, p. 1357.

A3. ABSORPTIVITY OF USP PETROLATUM

A3.1 Scope

A3.1.1 As an example of the application of the general method for determining the absorptivity of solids and liquids, the absorptivity of USP petrolatum shall be determined at 290 nm. Under the conditions specified, this method covers the determination of absorptivities in the range from 0.02 to 5.0 L/g·cm.

A3.2 Procedure

A3.2.1 Follow the general method given in Section 15 for determining absorptivity at room temperature. The recommended sample weight shall be 100 mg dissolved in 100 mL of *isooctane*. Absorbance measurements shall be made at 290 nm in 1.0 and 10.0-cm cells as described in Section 16. If a dilution is required as described in 16.5, a dilution factor of 5 (5 to 25 mL) will be adequate for measuring absorptivities up to 5.0.

A3.2.2 If the sample is not sufficiently soluble in *isooctane*, the alternative solvent decahydronaphthalene shall be used.

NOTE A3.1—Carbon tetrachloride (**Warning**—Can be fatal if swallowed. Harmful if inhaled. Can produce toxic vapors if burned.), is a good solvent for many petrolatums and can be used when the sample is not sufficiently soluble in decahydronaphthalene.

A3.3 Calculation

A3.3.1 The absorptivity of the petrolatum at 290 nm is given in Eq 5.

A3.4 Report

A3.4.1 Report absorptivities of petrolatums in the range from 0.02 to 5.0 to two significant figures. Report absorptivities less than 0.02 as less than 0.02. Report absorptivities greater than 5.0 as greater than 5.0.

A3.5 Precision and Bias

A3.5.1 The precision of the method as obtained by statistical examination of interlaboratory test results is as follows:

A3.5.1.1 *Repeatability*—The difference between successive test results, obtained by the same operator with the same apparatus under constant operating conditions on identical test material, would in the long run, in the normal and correct operation of the test method, exceed 0.01 at the level of 0.5 only in one case in twenty.

A3.5.1.2 *Reproducibility*—The difference between two single and independent results, obtained by different operators working in different laboratories on identical test material, would in the long run, in the normal and correct operation of the test method, exceed 0.05 at the level of 0.5 only in one case in twenty.

A3.5.2 *Bias*—Bias cannot be determined for this procedure since there is no acceptable reference standard.

A4. NONSTAINING RUBBER PROCESSING OR EXTENDER OILS

A4.1 Scope

A4.1.1 As an example of the application of the general procedure for determining the absorptivity of solids and liquids, the absorptivity of nonstaining rubber extender and processing oils is determined at 260 nm. Under the conditions specified, this method determines the absorptivities in the range from 0.10 to 20 L/g·cm.

A4.2 Procedure

A4.2.1 Follow the general procedure of Section 16 for determining absorptivity at room temperature. The recommended sample weight is 100 mg dissolved in 100 mL of “spectro grade” *isooctane*. Make absorbance measurements at 260 nm in a 1.0-cm cell as described in Section 16.

A4.2.2 If dilution is required by 16.5, a dilution factor of 5 (5 to 25 mL) will be adequate for measuring absorptivities up to 5.0; a dilution factor of 20 (5 to 100 mL) will be adequate for measuring absorptivities between 5.0 and 20.0.

A4.3 Calculation

A4.3.1 The absorptivity of the oil at 260 nm is in Eq 5.

A4.4 Report

A4.4.1 Report absorptivities of oils in the range from 0.10 to 20 to two significant figures. Report absorptivities less than 0.10 as less than 0.10. Report absorptivities greater than 20 as greater than 20.

A4.5 Precision and Bias

NOTE A4.1—The precision for this test was not obtained in accordance with RR:D02 – 1007.⁶

A4.5.1 The following criteria should be used for judging the acceptability of results (95 % confidence):

A4.5.1.1 *Repeatability*—Duplicate results by the same operator should be considered suspect if they differ by more than 7 % of the mean.

A4.5.1.2 *Reproducibility*—The results submitted by each of two laboratories should be considered suspect if they differ by more than 9 % of the mean.

A4.5.2 *Bias*—Bias cannot be determined for this procedure since there is no acceptable reference standard.

⁶ Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 05.03.

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