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# International Standard



# 3838

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INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION • МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ • ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

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## **Crude petroleum and liquid or solid petroleum products — Determination of density or relative density — Capillary- stoppered pycnometer and graduated bicapillary pycnometer methods**

*Pétrole brut et produits pétroliers liquides ou solides — Détermination de la masse volumique ou de la densité relative —  
Méthodes du pycnomètre à bouchon capillaire et du pycnomètre bicapillaire gradué*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of developing International Standards is carried out through ISO technical committees. Every member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been authorized has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council.

International Standard ISO 3838 was developed by Technical Committee ISO/TC 28, *Petroleum products and lubricants*, and incorporates draft International Standard ISO/DIS 3658. Both documents were circulated to the member bodies in July 1981.

They have been approved by the member bodies of the following countries :

Australia	India	Romania
Austria	Iraq	South Africa, Rep. of
Belgium	Israel	Spain
Brazil	Italy	Sweden
Canada	Japan	Switzerland
China	Netherlands	United Kingdom
France	Norway	USA
Germany, F. R.	Peru *	USSR
Hungary	Poland	

No member body expressed disapproval of the documents.

\* Peru approved DIS 3838 only.

# Crude petroleum and liquid or solid petroleum products — Determination of density or relative density — Capillary-stoppered pyknometer and graduated bicapillary pyknometer methods

## 1 Scope and field of application

1.1 This International Standard specifies methods for the determination of the density or relative density of crude petroleum and of petroleum products handled as liquids.

1.2 The capillary-stoppered pyknometer method is also for use with solids and this method may also be used for coal tar products, including road tars, creosote and tar pitches, or for mixtures of these with petroleum products. This method is not suitable for the determination of the density or relative density of highly volatile liquids having Reid vapour pressures greater than 50 kPa (0,5 bar) according to ISO 3007 or having an initial boiling point below 40 °C.

1.3 The graduated bicapillary pyknometer method is recommended for the accurate determination of the density or relative density of all except the more viscous products, and is particularly useful when only small amounts of samples are available. The method is restricted to liquids having Reid vapour pressures of 130 kPa (1,3 bar) or less according to ISO 3007 and having kinematic viscosities less than 50 cSt (50 mm<sup>2</sup>/s) at the test temperature.

Special precautions are specified for the determination of the density or relative density of highly volatile liquids.

## 2 References

ISO 91, *Petroleum measurement tables*.<sup>1)</sup>

ISO 653, *Long solid-stem thermometers for precision use*.

ISO 3007, *Petroleum products — Determination of vapour pressure — Reid method*.

ISO 3507, *Pyknometers*.

ISO 5024, *Petroleum liquids and gases — Measurement — Standard reference conditions*.

## 3 Definitions

For the purpose of this International Standard, the following definitions shall apply.

**3.1 density**: The mass of the substance divided by its volume.

When reporting the density, the unit of density used, together with the temperature, shall be explicitly stated, for example kilograms per cubic metre, or grams per millilitre, at  $t$  °C.

**3.2 apparent mass in air**: The value obtained by weighing in air against standard masses without making correction for the effect of air buoyancy on either the standard masses or the object weighed.

**3.3 observed density**: The value required in order to enter tables 53A and 53B referred to in ISO 91/1 or given in table A in ISO/R 91 Addendum 1, determined with soda-lime glass apparatus at a test temperature which differs from the calibration temperature of the apparatus, no correction having been made for the thermal expansion or contraction of the glass.

**3.4 relative density**: The ratio of the mass of a volume of a substance at a temperature  $t_1$  to the mass of an equal volume of another substance at a temperature  $t_2$ . The temperatures  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  may be equal. For the purpose of this International Standard, the other substance is water, i.e. the relative density is the ratio of the density of the substance at a temperature  $t_1$  to the density of water at a temperature  $t_2$ .

When reporting the relative density, the temperatures  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  must be explicitly stated. ISO 91 refers only to tables for the reduction of relative density to 60/60 °F. If results are required referred to another reference temperature, the determination should be carried out at that temperature.

1) ISO 91/1 has been published, but the revision of ISO/R 91 Addendum 1 is at present at the stage of draft.

## 4 Principle

### 4.1 Capillary-stoppered pyknometer

The masses of equal volumes of the sample and of water are compared. Equal volumes are ensured by the pyknometer being filled so as to overflow when placed in a bath at the test temperature until equilibrium is reached. The calculation (clause 10) includes corrections for thermal expansion of glass and for buoyancy.

### 4.2 Graduated bicapillary pyknometer

The graduated arms of the pyknometer are calibrated, using water, in terms of the apparent mass in air of water contained in the pyknometer, and a graph prepared. The liquid sample is drawn into the dried pyknometer and, after it has reached equilibrium at the test temperature, the liquid levels are noted and the pyknometer weighed. The apparent mass in air of an equal volume of water is read from the graph and the density or relative density of the sample is calculated, with corrections being made as in 4.1.

## 5 Apparatus

**5.1 Capillary-stoppered pyknometer**, one of the three types shown in figure 1 (see 8.1.1).

The pyknometers shall conform to the relevant requirements of ISO 3507.

NOTE — The "warden" form [see a) in figure 1] is recommended for all except viscous or solid products and should always be used for volatile products. The ground glass cap, or "warden", greatly reduces expansion and evaporation losses and this form of pyknometer may be used when the test temperature is lower than that of the laboratory.

**5.1.1** The form of pyknometer shown in b) in figure 1, known as the Gay-Lussac type, is suitable for non-volatile liquids except those of high viscosity.

**5.1.2** The wide-mouth (Hubbard) form of pyknometer [see c) in figure 1] is used for very viscous liquids and solids.

**5.1.3** As the forms of pyknometer shown in b) and c) in figure 1 have no "warden" or expansion chamber, they cannot be used when the temperature of the test is so far below that of the laboratory as to cause loss of sample by expansion through the capillary during weighing.

**5.2 Graduated bicapillary pyknometer**, capacity 1 to 10 ml, conforming to the dimensions given in figure 2, constructed of borosilicate glass or soda-lime glass, annealed after manufacture, and having a total mass not exceeding 30 g. Any pyknometer conforming with the requirements of the Lipkin pyknometer given in ISO 3507 may be used.

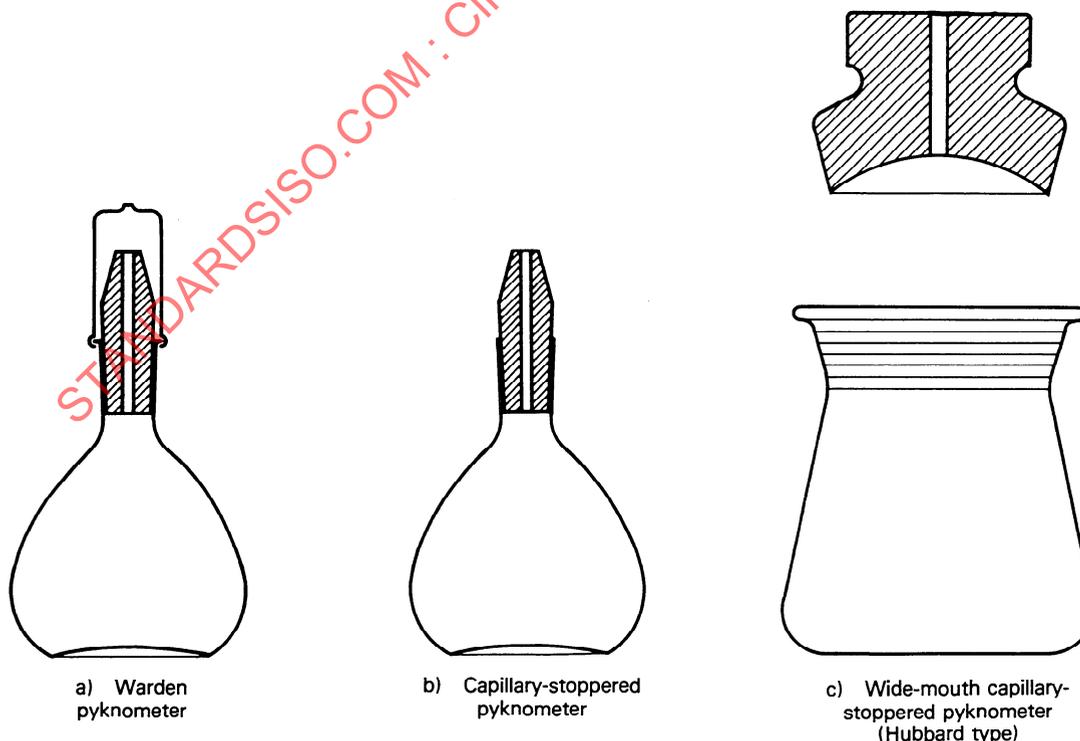


Figure 1 — Capillary-stoppered pyknometers

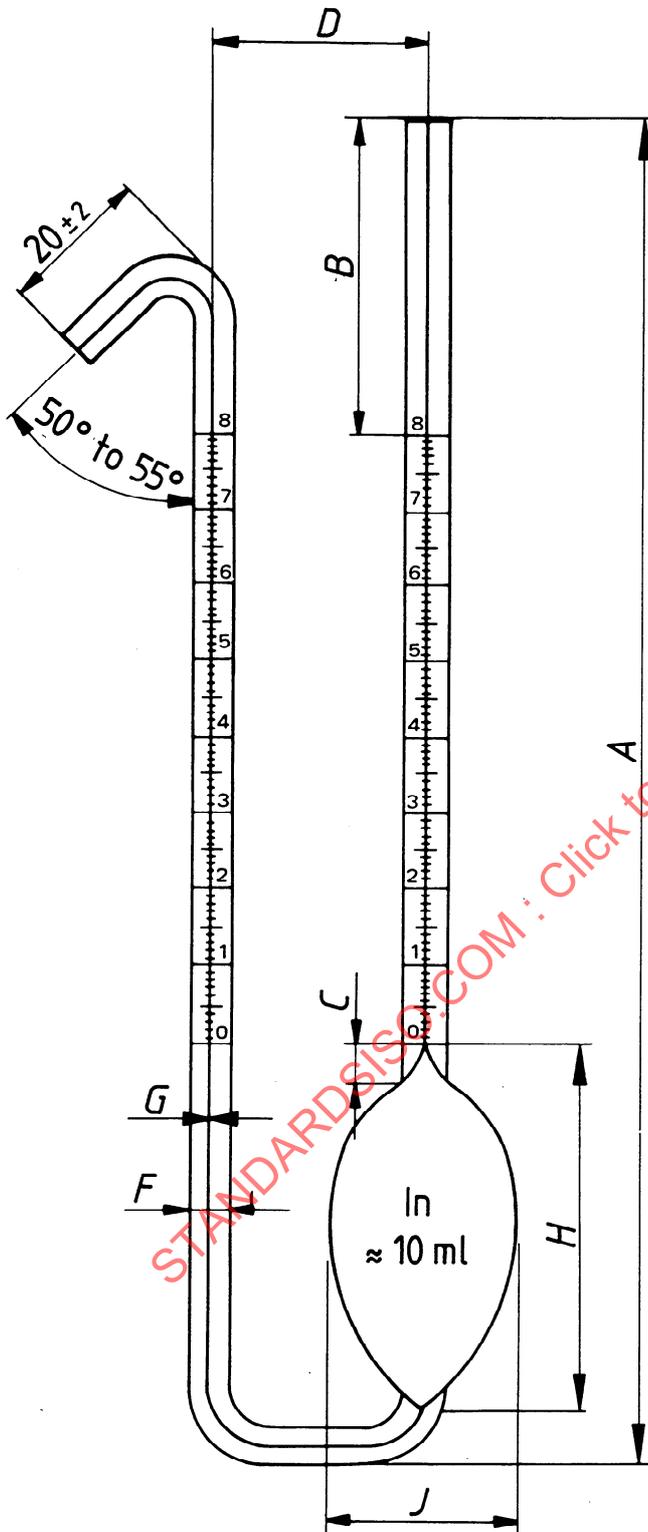


Table 1 – Characteristics of the graduated bicapillary pycnometer

Nominal capacity, ml	1	2	5	10
Difference between actual capacity and nominal capacity, max., ml	± 0,2	± 0,3	± 0,5	± 1
Maximum mass, g	30	30	30	30
Overall height, <i>A</i> , mm	175 ± 5			
Height above scale, <i>B</i> , min., mm	40			
Height from bulb to scale, <i>C</i> , min., mm	5			
Distance between centres of vertical limbs, <i>D</i> , mm	28 ± 2			
External diameter of tubing, <i>F</i> , mm	6			
Internal diameter of tubing, <i>G</i> , mm	1 ± 0,1			
Length from bottom of bulb to zero graduation line, <i>H</i> , mm	40			
External diameter of bulb, <i>J</i> , mm	11	14	20	25

Figure 2 – Graduated bicapillary pycnometer (Lipkin type)

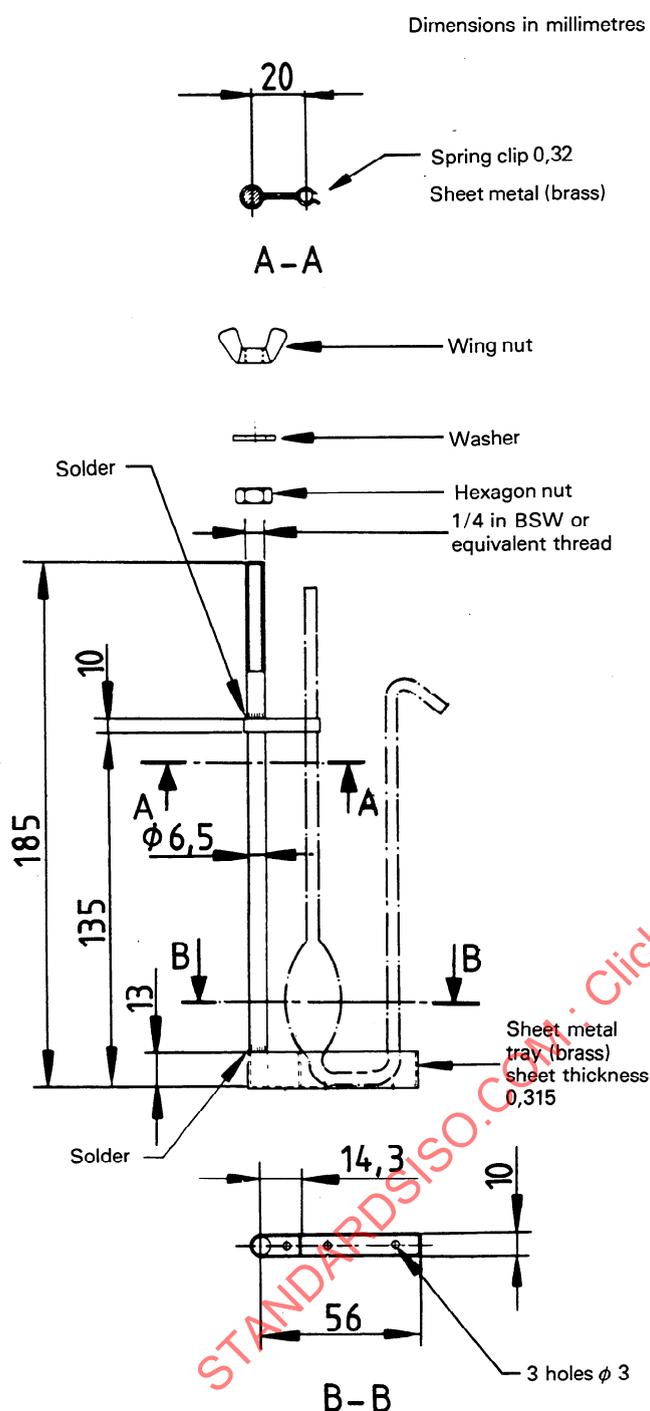


Figure 3 — A suitable design of holder for graduated bicapillary pycnometer

**5.3 Constant-temperature water bath**, having a depth greater than that of the pycnometer, capable of being maintained within 0,05 °C (0.1 °F) of the desired temperature.

**5.4 Bath thermometer**, conforming to the specification ISO 653/STL/0,1/−5/+25. Other total immersion thermometers of suitable range and equal or greater accuracy may also be used.

For the determinations of relative density 60/60 °F a Fahrenheit thermometer of suitable range graduated at 0.2 °F intervals may be used or the specified Celsius thermometer may be used at 15,56 °C.

**5.5 Pycnometer holder** (optional), to hold the pycnometer vertically and at the correct depth in the constant temperature bath. It shall be constructed of any suitable metal which will not corrode in the water bath.

A suitable design of holder for the graduated bicapillary pycnometers is shown in figure 3.

Several pycnometers holders may be conveniently supported in the water bath by the use of a non-corrodible rectangular metal bar of sufficient length to lie across the rim of the bath. A series of holes of sufficient diameter to accommodate the 6,5 mm rod of the pycnometer holder is drilled in the bar at about 45 mm apart. Each rod is secured in its hole by locking the bar between the hexagon nut, and the winged nut and washer.

**5.6 Balance**, capable of weighing to the nearest 0,1 mg.

## 6 Preparation of pycnometer

Thoroughly clean the pycnometer and stopper with surfactant cleaning fluid, rinse well with distilled water, then with a water-soluble volatile solvent such as acetone, and dry. Ensure that all traces of moisture are removed, using a current of filtered air if necessary. Cleaning should be carried out in this manner whenever the pycnometer is to be calibrated or whenever liquid fails to drain cleanly from the internal walls of the pycnometer or the capillary of the stopper. Normally the pycnometer may be cleaned between determinations by washing with a suitable light petroleum spirit such as 40/60 °C petroleum spirit, followed by vacuum drying.

NOTE — If surfactant cleaning fluids do not give adequate cleaning, chromic acid cleaning solution may be used. Chromic acid is a strong acid and powerful oxidizing agent and great care must be taken when using it.

## 7 Calibration of pycnometer

### 7.1 Conditioning

After drying, allow the pycnometer to reach room temperature. Dissipate any static charge which may have formed on it and then weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg.

### NOTES

1 If the balance case is not fitted with a static eliminator, static charges may be dissipated by breathing on the pycnometer, but ensure that the pycnometer has regained constant mass before recording the mass.

2 For greatest accuracy, all the weighings should be made at temperatures within a 5 °C range so as to limit differences in air density.

## 7.2 Capillary-stoppered pycnometer

**7.2.1** Fill the pycnometer with freshly boiled distilled water, cooled to slightly below the selected reference temperature, and firmly insert the stopper, taking care to avoid the inclusion of any air bubbles. Immerse the pycnometer to the neck in the constant-temperature bath and maintain it at  $15 \pm 0,05$  °C,  $20 \pm 0,05$  °C or  $60 \pm 0,1$  °F as appropriate, for not less than 1 h.

**7.2.2** When the pycnometer and its contents have reached the bath temperature, wipe the top of the stopper so that it is dry and the meniscus of the water in the capillary is flush with the top of the stopper. Care is necessary during this operation, since capillary action of the cloth can draw material out of the stopper. Place the "warden" firmly on the stopper (if the pycnometer is of this type).

**7.2.3** Remove the pycnometer from the bath. If not of the "warden" form, cool the pycnometer and its contents to a temperature slightly below the temperature of the bath.

**7.2.4** Dry the exterior surface of the pycnometer by wiping with a clean, lint-free cloth, dissipate any static charge and weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg.

**7.2.5** The difference between the apparent masses in air of the filled and empty pycnometer gives the water equivalent at the selected reference temperature.

## 7.3 Graduated bicapillary pycnometer

**7.3.1** Fill the pycnometer with sufficient freshly boiled, cooled, distilled water to obtain readings near the top of the graduated capillaries. Filling is readily achieved by placing the hooked tip in the liquid while keeping the pycnometer upright, thus allowing the liquid to be drawn over the bend in the capillary by capillary attraction. The pycnometer then fills by siphoning. Place the pycnometer in the constant-temperature bath so that the whole of the liquid in the pycnometer is below the level of the bath liquid. Maintain the temperature of the bath at  $15 \pm 0,05$  °C,  $20 \pm 0,05$  °C or  $60 \pm 0,1$  °F, as required. Keep the pycnometer in the bath for 20 min then read the scale to the nearest small division at the liquid level in each arm.

**7.3.2** Remove the pycnometer from the bath, allow the water on the exterior to drain off. The pycnometer may be dipped into acetone in a beaker to assist drying and wiped with a clean, dry, lint-free cloth. Allow it to come to room temperature, dissipate any static charge, and weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg.

**7.3.3** The difference between the apparent masses in air of the filled and empty pycnometer gives the mass of water contained at the test temperature, corresponding to the sum of the two scale readings. By removing successive quantities of water, repeat the determination so as to obtain a series of at least three pairs of readings, together with the corresponding apparent masses in air, with the water level at different scale points on the graduated arms. One pair of readings shall be at the upper end of the scale and another at the lower end. Plot

the sums of the scale readings on the two arms against the corresponding masses. The points should lie on a straight line which gives the mass of water contained by the pycnometer for any combination of scale readings. If the points show a scatter of more than two small scale divisions on either side of a straight line drawn through the array of points and subsequent tests do not correct this, discard the pycnometer as imperfect.

## 7.4 Other reference temperatures

If it is desired to determine the relative density referred to water at some temperature other than 60 °F or to determine density at a temperature other than 15 °C or 20 °C, calibrate the pycnometer at the desired temperature.

## 7.5 Recalibration

Recalibrate pycnometers at intervals as dictated by experience.

NOTE — It is recommended that new pycnometers should be recalibrated after one year, and thereafter at intervals dependent upon the magnitude of any changes found.

## 8 Procedure for capillary-stoppered pycnometers

### 8.1 Procedure for liquids

**8.1.1** Choose an appropriate form and size of pycnometer for the sample to be tested. The 25 ml and 50 ml sizes are normally the most suitable.

**8.1.2** Weigh the clean, dry calibrated pycnometer, if necessary dispersing any static charge (see notes following 7.1). Pycnometers of 25 ml or greater capacity should be weighed to the nearest 0,5 mg, and those of smaller capacity to the nearest 0,1 mg.

**8.1.3** Fill the pycnometer with the test sample, if necessary warming both sample and pycnometer to assist filling and separation of air bubbles. Bring the pycnometer and its contents to the test temperature  $t_1$  (see 10.1) by immersing the pycnometer up to its neck in the constant-temperature bath (see note and 10.2.3). Immerse the pycnometer in the bath for 20 min in order to stabilize the temperature and to permit air bubbles to rise to the surface. If after this time the liquid level is still changing, keep the pycnometer in the bath until the liquid level becomes stable.

NOTE — For mixtures of products, it is essential to ensure that the test temperature is the same as the final reporting temperature unless an approximate value is acceptable and the volumetric composition of the mixture is known together with the correction coefficients of the components in the mixture.

**8.1.4** When the temperature is constant, firmly insert the capillary stopper, which has also been brought to the test temperature, taking care to avoid trapping air bubbles below the stopper.

NOTE — It is essential to ensure that no air bubbles are left trapped in the liquid and adequate time must be allowed for air bubbles to rise to the surface before inserting the stopper.

Wipe excess liquid from the top of the stopper so that the meniscus of the liquid in the capillary is flush with the top of the stopper. Place the "warden" over the stopper (if the pycnometer is of this type).

**8.1.5** Remove the pycnometer from the bath and, if not of the "warden" type, cool to a temperature slightly below  $t_t$ . Cool the pycnometer and contents to room temperature if the test temperature is above ambient.

**8.1.6** Remove all traces of sample and water from the exterior surface of the pycnometer by wiping with a clean, lint-free cloth, disperse any static charge and weigh to the precision given in 8.1.2.

## 8.2 Procedure for solid or semi-solid samples

**8.2.1** Weigh the clean, dry calibrated pycnometer, which should be of the wide-mouth type [see c) in figure 1], to the nearest 0,5 mg. For bituminous materials, only the wide-mouth type shall be used.

**8.2.2** Introduce a suitable amount of the sample in the form of small pieces, which should be as regular as possible in order to reduce the possibility of trapping air bubbles. Alternatively, pour the molten sample into the warmed pycnometer, taking care to avoid the inclusion of air bubbles.

**8.2.3** Bring the pycnometer and its contents to room temperature and weigh to the nearest 0,5 mg.

**8.2.4** Fill the pycnometer with freshly boiled, cooled, distilled water, removing all air bubbles. A fine wire may be used to facilitate the removal of bubbles.

Bring the pycnometer and its contents to the test temperature  $t_t$  by immersing the pycnometer up to its neck in the constant-temperature bath. Immerse the pycnometer in the bath for 20 min in order to stabilize the temperature and to permit bubbles to rise to the surface. If after this time the liquid level is still changing, keep the pycnometer in the bath until the liquid level becomes stable.

**8.2.5** When the temperature is constant, firmly insert the capillary stopper, which has also been brought to the test temperature, taking care to avoid trapping air bubbles below the stopper. Wipe excess water from the top of the stopper so that the meniscus of the water in the capillary is flush with the top of the stopper.

**8.2.6** Remove the pycnometer from the bath and cool to a temperature slightly below  $t_t$ . Cool the pycnometer and contents to room temperature if the test temperature is above ambient.

**8.2.7** Dry the exterior surface of the pycnometer by wiping with a clean, lint-free cloth, disperse any static charge and weigh to the nearest 0,5 mg.

## 9 Procedure for graduated bicapillary pycnometers

**9.1** Weigh the clean, dry, calibrated pycnometer to the nearest 0,1 mg, dissipating any static charge if necessary. (See notes in 7.1.)

**9.2** Fill the pycnometer with the sample at approximately the test temperature by the method specified in 7.3.1, so that the liquid levels are in the graduated portions of the capillaries (see note). If the test temperature is lower than the laboratory temperature, low scale readings should be aimed at in order to minimize any losses due to evaporation during weighing. Bring the pycnometer and contents to the test temperature  $t_t$  (see 10.1) by immersion for 20 min in the constant-temperature bath as specified in 7.3.1 and obtain readings of the liquid level in the two graduated arms. In the case of more viscous samples, no readings shall be taken until ample time for draining has been allowed after any disturbance of the pycnometer. The 20 min immersion time is normally sufficient, provided that the pycnometer has not been disturbed during this period.

NOTE — For mixtures of petroleum products and non-petroleum products it is essential to ensure that the test temperature is the same as the final reporting temperature, unless an approximate value is acceptable and the volumetric composition of the mixture is known together with the correction coefficients of the components in the mixture.

**9.3** Remove the pycnometer from the bath, allow the water on the exterior to drain off. The pycnometer may be dipped into acetone in a beaker to assist drying and wiped with a clean, dry, lint-free cloth. Allow to come to room temperature, dissipate any static charge, and weigh to the nearest 0,1 mg.

**9.4** When carrying out the determination on highly volatile samples containing appreciable amounts of material boiling below 20 °C, or on any sample where there is uncertainty concerning loss which might result from evaporation during the determination, cool the sample and pycnometer to a temperature of 0 to 5 °C before filling. If the dew point is sufficiently high to cause condensation of moisture in the pycnometer during the cooling operation, attach a drying tube to the arm of the pycnometer in order to avoid this. With samples of this type it is essential to restrict the filling of the pycnometer to obtain a low scale reading, thus minimizing losses due to evaporation. If the total length of unfilled capillary is over 10 cm, the rate of diffusion is so low that even with highly volatile compounds such as isopentane, vapour losses during the determination are negligibly low.

## 10 Calculation

### 10.1 Symbols

The following symbols are used in the calculations :

$t_t$  is any reference temperature, e.g. 15 °C, ISO 5024 (see 10.2.1);

$t_c$  is the temperature at which the pycnometer is calibrated by water filling, (see 10.2.2);

$t_t$  is the temperature at which the pycnometer is filled with the liquid under test, (see 10.2.3);

$m_o$  is the apparent mass in air, in grams, of the empty pycnometer;

$m_c$  is the apparent mass in air, in grams, of the pycnometer filled with water at the calibration temperature  $t_c$ ;

$m_t$  is the apparent mass in air, in grams, of the pycnometer filled with the liquid under test at the temperature  $t_t$ ;

$m_1$  is the apparent mass in air, in grams, of the pycnometer plus solid or semi-solid sample;

$m_2$  is the apparent mass in air, in grams, of the pycnometer plus sample, filled with water at the temperature  $t_t$ ;

$C$  is the correction for air buoyancy, in kilograms per cubic metre (see table 2) (see 7.1, note 2);

$\rho_c$  is the density of water, in kilograms per cubic metre, at the temperature of calibration  $t_c$  (see table 3);

$\alpha_1$  is the coefficient of cubical expansion of borosilicate glass (see 10.3.2);

$\alpha_2$  is the coefficient of cubical expansion of soda-lime glass (see 10.3.3);

$\rho_t$  is the density of the sample, in kilograms per cubic metre, at the test temperature  $t_t$ ;

$\rho_r$  is the density of the sample, in kilograms per cubic metre, at any reference temperature  $t_r$ ;

$\rho_{15}$  is the density of the sample, in kilograms per cubic metre, at the reference temperature of 15 °C;

$\rho_{20}$  is the density of the sample, in kilograms per cubic metre, at the reference temperature of 20 °C;

$\rho_t^1$  is the observed density in kilograms per cubic metre at the test temperature  $t_t$  as determined in soda-lime glass apparatus calibrated at the reference temperature  $t_r = 15$  °C or 20 °C, i.e. the observed density uncorrected for glass expansion required for entering the tables referred to in ISO 91.

NOTE — These calculations have been based on density in kilograms per cubic metre but if it is desired to use density in grams per millilitre the result should be divided by 1 000 (see clause 12).

$d_t$  is the relative density at the test temperature  $t_t$ ;

$d_r$  is the relative density at the reference temperature  $t_r$ ;

$d_{60}$  is the relative density at the reference temperature of 60 °F;

$d_t^1$  is the observed relative density at the test temperature  $t_t$  as determined in soda-lime glass apparatus calibrated at the reference temperature  $t_r = 60$  °F, i.e. the observed relative density uncorrected for glass expansion required for entering the tables referred to in ISO 91.

## 10.2 Reference, calibration and test temperatures

10.2.1 The standard reference temperature for international trade in petroleum and its products is 15 °C (ISO 5024), but other reference temperatures may be required for legal metrology or other special purposes.

10.2.2 The pycnometer may be calibrated at any convenient temperature and this may correspond with the reference, or test temperatures (see 7.1, note 2).

10.2.3 For qualitative purposes, the test temperature is usually chosen to correspond with the required reference temperature, but for quantitative purposes involving the calculation of the mass or of the apparent mass in air of a given quantity of oil, the density or relative density should be determined within 3 °C of the temperature at which the volume of oil is measured by the selected dynamic or static method. However, to minimize the loss of light fractions from very volatile samples, carry out the test at a temperature of 15 °C or below if the Reid vapour pressure exceeds the following :

- a) for capillary-stoppered pycnometer — 10 kPa (0,1 bar),
- b) for bicapillary pycnometer — 50 kPa (0,5 bar).

## 10.3 Correction for the thermal expansion of the pycnometer

### 10.3.1 General

The calculation of density or of relative density from measurements made at a temperature  $t_t$  which differs from the temperature  $t_c$  at which the pycnometer was calibrated, involves a correction for cubical expansion of the glass from which the pycnometer is made.

If the calculation is based on the density or relative density correction tables referred to, or given, in ISO 91, a similar correction may also be required (see 10.3.4).

### 10.3.2 Pycnometers made of borosilicate glass

10.3.2.1 The coefficients of cubical expansion of borosilicate glasses are known to depend on the source of the glass and to fall into three main categories having coefficients of cubical expansion of  $10 \times 10^{-6}$ ,  $14 \times 10^{-6}$ , and  $19 \times 10^{-6}$  °C<sup>-1</sup> respectively.

NOTE — In current production, pycnometers made of borosilicate glass usually have a coefficient of cubical expansion of  $10 \times 10^{-6}$  °C<sup>-1</sup>.

10.3.2.2 For determination of the highest accuracy when borosilicate pycnometers are used therefore, either

- a) ensure that  $t_t = t_c$ , or
- b) use a pycnometer for which the coefficient of cubical expansion is known.

When the foregoing is not possible and a lower precision is acceptable, the use of  $10 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$  is recommended.

**10.3.3 Pyknometers made of soda-lime glass**

**10.3.3.1** For pyknometers made of soda-lime glass, the coefficient of cubical expansion may be assumed to be  $25 \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$  (ISO 1768).

**10.3.4 Petroleum measurement tables in ISO 91**

**10.3.4.1** In ISO 91/1 separate tables are referred to for crude oils and products and are designated "A" and "B" respectively, e.g. Tables 53A and 53B, and the correct table for the material being tested shall be used (see notes 1 and 2).

NOTES

1 A similar division is expected in ISO 91/2, but Tables A and B given in ISO/R 91 Addendum 1 are not so divided and pending the publication of ISO 91/2 the same tables should be used for both crude oils and products for the reference temperature of 20 °C.

2 The units of density used in ISO/R 91 Addendum 1 are kilograms per litre and therefore values calculated as described in 10.4 should be divided by 1 000 before entering tables A or B.

**10.3.4.2** The following tables referred to, or given, in ISO 91 are relevant only for determinations on petroleum and petroleum products. The tables shall not be used for non-petroleum products for which always ensure that  $t_t = t_r$  when  $\rho_t$  or  $d_r$  is required.

Table 53	Correction of observed density to density at 15 °C
Table A	Correction of observed density to density at 20 °C
Table 23	Correction of observed relative density to relative density 60/60 °F
Table 54	Correction of volume to 15 °C against density at 15 °C
Table B	Correction of observed volume to volume at a reference temperature of 20 °C
Table 24	Correction of volume to 60 °F against relative density 60/60 °F.

**10.3.4.3** Tables 53, A and 23 are entered with densities or relative densities determined in glass apparatus calibrated at a temperature  $t_c$  in degrees Celsius (tables 53 or A) or degrees Fahrenheit (table 23).

The tables include a correction for the expansion of the glass apparatus used (assumed to be soda-lime glass) for which the conventional value of  $(25 \pm 2) \times 10^{-6} \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$  applies (ISO 1768).

**10.3.4.4** When entering tables 53, A or 23 with the results of determinations made with pyknometers constructed from borosilicate glass, a correction will be required for the dif-

ference between the coefficient of cubical expansion of the borosilicate glass and the conventional value for soda-lime glass incorporated in the tables.

**10.3.4.5** When the pyknometer used is made of soda-lime glass no correction is necessary when using tables 53, A or 23 when  $t_c = 15 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  or  $60 \text{ }^\circ\text{F}$  as appropriate to the table entered.

If  $t_c$  does not correspond to the reference temperature  $t_r$  for which the table used is constructed, an adjustment is required for the expansion of the pyknometer over the temperature range  $t_c$  to  $t_r$ .

NOTE — Alternatively, the corresponding volume correction tables 54, B or 24 may be used. These tables do not include any correction for the expansion of glass but have to be entered with a density at the appropriate reference temperature. Consequently, the use of these tables requires a tedious repetitive calculation. This procedure is not therefore recommended and is not covered in 10.4 and 10.5.

**10.4 Calculation of density of a liquid**

**10.4.1 Density at any temperature  $t_t$**

**10.4.1.1** When  $t_t = t_c$

$$\rho_t = \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C$$

**10.4.1.2** When  $t_t \neq t_c$

$$\rho_t = \left[ \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C \right] \left[ \frac{1}{1 - \alpha^1 (t_c - t_t)} \right]$$

where  $\alpha^1 = \alpha_1$  or  $\alpha_2$  as appropriate to the pyknometer used.

**10.4.2 Density at reference temperature  $t_r$**

**10.4.2.1** When  $t_t = t_c = t_r$

$$\rho_t = \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C$$

**10.4.2.2** When  $t_t = t_c \neq t_r$  ( $t_r = 15 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  or  $20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ).

The density determined at the test temperature  $t_t$  as in 10.4.1.1 is the true density at  $t_t$ . The result obtained must therefore be adjusted to give the apparent density at  $t_t$  in soda-lime glass apparatus calibrated at  $t_r$ , before entering table 53 referred to in ISO 91 or table A given in ISO 91 as appropriate. This always applies irrespective of the glass from which the pyknometer is made, i.e. enter table 53 or A with  $\rho_t^1$  and against  $t_t$  extract  $\rho_{15}$  or  $\rho_{20}$  respectively, interpolating as necessary, where

$$\rho_t^1 = \left[ \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C \right] \left[ 1 + (25 \times 10^{-6}) (t_r - t_t) \right]$$

10.4.2.3 When  $t_c = t_r \neq t_t$  ( $t_r = 15\text{ °C}$  or  $20\text{ °C}$ )

a) Pyknometers made of soda-lime glass

Table 53 or table A shall be entered directly with  $\rho_t^1$  and against  $t_t$  the corresponding  $\rho_{15}$  or  $\rho_{20}$  is extracted, interpolating as necessary, where

$$\rho_t^1 = \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C$$

b) Pyknometers made of borosilicate glass

Table 53 or table A shall be entered with  $\rho_t^1$  adjusted for the differential expansion of the pyknometer glass, and against  $t_t$  the corresponding  $\rho_{15}$  or  $\rho_{20}$  is extracted, interpolating as necessary, where

$$\rho_t^1 = \left[ \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C \right] \left[ 1 + (\alpha_2 - \alpha_1) (t_r - t_t) \right]$$

Second order terms which are not significant, are ignored.

10.4.2.4 When  $t_t \neq t_c \neq t_r$

The density determined at the test temperature  $t_t$  as in 10.4.1.2 is the true density at  $t_t$ . The result obtained must therefore be adjusted to give the apparent density at  $t_t$  in soda-lime glass apparatus calibrated at  $t_r$  before entering table 53 referred to in ISO 91 or table A given in ISO 91 as appropriate. This always applies irrespective of the glass from which the pyknometer is made, i.e. enter table 53 or table A with  $\rho_t^1$  and against  $t_t$  extract  $\rho_{15}$  or  $\rho_{20}$  respectively, interpolating as necessary. The expression for  $\rho_t^1$  may be rearranged as follows, ignoring second order terms which are not significant.

a) Pyknometers made of soda-lime glass

$$\rho_t^1 = \left[ \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C \right] \left[ 1 + \alpha_2 (t_r - t_c) \right]$$

b) Pyknometers made of borosilicate glass

$$\rho_t^1 = \left[ \frac{(m_t - m_o) \rho_c}{(m_c - m_o)} + C \right] \left[ 1 + \alpha_1 t_r + \alpha_2 t_t - (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) t_c \right]$$

10.4.2.5 When  $t_r = t_t \neq t_c$

Use the expression in 10.4.1.2.

10.4.3 Rounding-off of calculations

Carry out all calculations to five significant figures for values below 1 000,00 or 1,000 00 and to six significant figures for values of 1 000,00 or 1,000 00 and above, depending on which units are used for density or whether relative density is being determined.

10.5 Calculation of relative density of a liquid

10.5.1 In accordance with the definition, the appropriate values for  $d_t$ ,  $d_t^1$  and  $d_r$  can be derived by dividing the corresponding values for density in 10.4.1 and 10.4.2, by the density of water in the same units at the required reference temperature (see note).

10.5.2 When the correction of relative density  $t/60\text{ °F}$  of petroleum and petroleum products is required to the reference temperature of  $60\text{ °F}$  (see 10.4.2.2, 10.4.2.3 and 10.4.2.4), use table 23 referred to in ISO 91.  $t_r$ ,  $t_t$  and  $t_c$  will be in degrees Fahrenheit and the coefficients of cubical expansion  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  should be stated per degree Fahrenheit. For  $\alpha_2$  the value of  $14 \times 10^{-6}\text{ °F}^{-1}$  may be taken.

10.5.3 Carry out all calculations to five decimal places.

NOTE — If the value for density is expressed in grams per millilitre, it is essential that the values in table 3 be divided by 1 000.

Table 2 — Buoyancy corrections<sup>1)</sup>

$\frac{m_t - m_o^{(2)}}{m_c - m_o}$	Correction C kg/m <sup>3</sup>	$\frac{m_t - m_o^{(2)}}{m_c - m_o}$	Correction C kg/m <sup>3</sup>
0,60	0,48	0,80	0,24
0,61	0,47	0,81	0,23
0,62	0,46	0,82	0,22
0,63	0,44	0,83	0,20
0,64	0,43	0,84	0,19
0,65	0,42	0,85	0,18
0,66	0,41	0,86	0,17
0,67	0,40	0,87	0,16
0,68	0,38	0,88	0,14
0,69	0,37	0,89	0,13
0,70	0,36	0,90	0,12
0,71	0,35	0,91	0,11
0,72	0,34	0,92	0,10
0,73	0,32	0,93	0,08
0,74	0,31	0,94	0,07
0,75	0,30	0,95	0,06
0,76	0,29	0,96	0,05
0,77	0,28	0,97	0,04
0,78	0,26	0,98	0,02
0,79	0,25	0,99	0,01

1) Calculated for standard air of density 1,222 kg/m<sup>3</sup> at 15,56 °C and at a pressure of 1 013 mbar (101,3 kPa).

These corrections are applicable for air density values between 1,1 and 1,3 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

2) See 10.1 for definitions of symbols.

10.6 Calculation of density or relative density of a solid or semi-solid

When the procedure described in 8.2 has been used, the following expression

$$\frac{(m_1 - m_o)}{(m_c - m_o - m_2 + m_1)}$$

shall be substituted for the expression

$$\frac{(m_t - m_o)}{(m_c - m_o)}$$

in the calculation in 10.4.

NOTE — Tables 23 and 53 and table A apply only to petroleum products and must not be used for correction of densities or relative densities of tar products.

## 11 Precision

### 11.1 Capillary-stoppered pycnometer method

The precision of the method, based on estimates of normal good practice, but not derived from statistical analysis of inter-laboratory test results, is as follows.

#### 11.1.1 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 following value only in one case in twenty :

0,6 kg/m<sup>3</sup> or 0,000 6 g/ml or 0,000 6 for relative density

#### 11.1.2 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 following value only in one case in twenty :

0,6 kg/m<sup>3</sup> or 0,000 6 g/ml or 0,000 6 for relative density

**11.1.3** No precision data can be given for volatile or very viscous materials or for solids (see 8.2), other than bituminous binders (see note).

NOTE — Precision data for bituminous binders have been determined for bituminous binders sampled in accordance with German national standards for which there are no ISO equivalents. The values for repeatability and reproducibility as defined in 11.1.1 and 11.1.2 respectively are as follows :

Repeatability : 3 kg/m<sup>3</sup> or 0,003 g/ml or 0,003 for relative density;

Reproducibility : 5 kg/m<sup>3</sup> or 0,005 g/ml or 0,005 for relative density.

### 11.2 Graduated bicapillary pycnometer method

The precision of the method, as obtained by statistical examination of inter-laboratory test results using 5 ml pycnometers,

is as given in 11.2.1 and 11.2.2. The method is not restricted to the ranges 777,0 to 892,0 and 0,777 0 to 0,892 0, but the precision data are not available outside these ranges.

The precision obtainable when using larger pycnometers should be equal to or better than that given in 11.2.1 and 11.2.2.

#### 11.2.1 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 following value only in one case in twenty :

range 777,0 to 892,0 kg/m<sup>3</sup> : 0,7 kg/m<sup>3</sup> for density;

range 0,777 0 to 0,892 0 : 0,000 7 g/ml for density or 0,000 7 for relative density.

#### 11.2.2 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 following value only in one case in twenty :

range 777,0 to 892,0 kg/m<sup>3</sup> : 1,0 kg/m<sup>3</sup> for density;

range 0,777 0 to 0,892 0 : 0,001 0 g/ml for density or 0,001 0 for relative density.

## 12 Test report

Report the final result either as density, to the nearest 0,1 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, or the nearest 0,000 1 g/ml, or as relative density to the nearest 0,000 1. Additionally, the following shall be included in the report :

- whether the value reported is density or relative density;
- if density, the unit and temperature (see 3.1);
- if relative density, the temperatures  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  (see 3.4);
- the method used for the determination;
- reference to this International Standard, or to an identical national standard.

If the density reported has been corrected from the observed density using the tables referred to in 10.3.4, the reference temperature and the designation of the table used shall also be reported.