



Standard Practice for Calculating Volume-Temperature Correction For Coal-Tar Pitches¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D2962; 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 practice covers calculation of the amount of expansion or contraction of a volume of liquid coal-tar pitch due to a change of temperature.

1.2 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

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

D70 Test Method for Density of Semi-Solid Bituminous Materials (Pycnometer Method)

D71 Test Method for Relative Density of Solid Pitch and Asphalt (Displacement Method)

3. Summary of Practice

3.1 Different pitches expand or contract at different rates which vary in relation to the relative density of the material. The corresponding values are listed in **Table 1**.

¹ This practice is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.02.07 on Temperature Determination (API MPMS Chapter 7.0).

Current edition approved Oct. 1, 2010. Published November 2010. Originally approved in 1971. Last previous edition approved in 2007 as D2962–97(2007). DOI: 10.1520/D2962-10.

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.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 Coal tar pitch is shipped or stored, or both, at various temperatures, consequently a means is required to correct volume to a specified temperature.

5. Procedure

5.1 Determine the relative density of the pitch at 60/60°F (15.6/15.6°C) in accordance with Test Methods **D70** or **D71**, whichever is most suitable.

5.2 Find the coefficient of expansion per degree Celsius or Fahrenheit for the particular material from **Table 1**.

5.3 Multiply the coefficient by the number of degrees between the standard temperature and the actual temperature of the material as measured.

5.4 To the product of **5.3** add 1.000. The result is expansion factor *A*.

5.5 If the temperature of the material as measured is above the standard temperature, *divide* the measured volume by factor *A* (**5.4**). If the temperature of the material as measured is below the standard temperature, *multiply* the measured volume by factor *A* (**5.4**).

5.6 *Example*—A tank of pitch contains 95 000 gal at 350°F (177°C). Calculate the volume at 60°F (15.6°C) as follows: The relative density 60/60°F (15.6/15.6°C) according to Test Method **D70** is 1.28.

From **Table 1** the coefficient is 280×10^{-6} per °F.

The temperature difference of $350 - 60 = 290$ °.

$$290 \times 280 \times 10^{-6} = 0.0812$$

$$A = 1.0812$$

The corrected volume is $95,000/1.0812 = 87\,865$ gal at 60°F (15.6°C).

6. Keywords

6.1 coal tar pitch; correction factor; pitch; relative density; volume-temperature correction

TABLE 1 Expansion Coefficient Versus Relative Density

Relative Density at 60/60°F (15.6/15.6°C)	Expansion Coefficient	
	per °F	per °C
1.160	345× 10 ⁻⁶	620× 10 ⁻⁶
1.170	340	610
1.180	330	600
1.190	325	590
1.200	320	580
1.210	315	570
1.220	310	565
1.230	305	555
1.240	300	545
1.250	295	535
1.260	290	525
1.270	285	520
1.280	280	510
1.290	275	500
1.300	270	490
1.310	265	480
1.320	260	470
1.330	255	460
1.340	250	450

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