



Standard Test Method for Viscosity-Temperature Charts for Liquid Petroleum Products¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D 341; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. Scope

1.1 The kinematic viscosity-temperature charts (see Figs. 1 and 2) covered by this standard are a convenient means to ascertain the kinematic viscosity of a petroleum oil or liquid hydrocarbon at any temperature within a limited range, provided that the kinematic viscosities at two temperatures are known.

1.2 The charts are designed to permit petroleum oil kinematic viscosity-temperature data to plot as a straight line. The charts here presented provide a significant improvement in linearity over the charts previously available under Method D 341 – 43. This increases the reliability of extrapolation to higher temperatures.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

D 445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (the Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)

¹ These charts are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.07 on Flow Properties.

Current edition approved Dec. 1, 2003. Published January 2004. Originally approved in 1932. Last previous edition approved in 1998 as D 341–93 (1998).

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.

2.2 ASTM Adjuncts:

Adjunct D 341, Viscosity-Temperature Charts 1–7³

3. Technical Hazard

3.1 **Caution**—The charts should be used only in that range in which the hydrocarbon or petroleum fluids are homogeneous liquids. The suggested range is thus between the cloud point at low temperatures and the initial boiling point at higher temperatures. The charts provide improved linearity in both low kinematic viscosity and at temperatures up to 340°C (approximately 650°F) or higher. Some high-boiling point materials can show a small deviation from a straight line as low as 280°C (approximately 550°F), depending on the individual sample or accuracy of the data. Reliable data can be usefully plotted in the high temperature region even if it does exhibit some curvature. Extrapolations into such regions from lower temperatures will lack accuracy, however. Experimental data taken below the cloud point or temperature of crystal growth will generally not be of reliable repeatability for interpolation or extrapolation on the charts. It should also be emphasized that fluids other than hydrocarbons will usually not plot as a straight line on these charts.

³ Available from ASTM International Headquarters. Order Adjunct No. ADJD0341CS.