



Designation: D4486 – 18

Standard Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Volatile and Reactive Liquids¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D4486; 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 measurement of kinematic viscosity of transparent, Newtonian liquids which because of their reactivity, instability, or volatility cannot be used in conventional capillary kinematic viscometers. This test method is applicable up to 2×10^{-5} N/m² (2 atm) pressure and temperature range from -53 °C to $+135$ °C (-65 °F to $+275$ °F).

1.1.1 For the measurement of the kinematic viscosity of other liquids, see Test Method D445. The difference between the two methods is in the viscometers. The viscometers specified in used Specification D446 are open to the atmosphere, while the viscometers in this method are sealed. When volatile liquids are measured in sealed viscometers, the density of the vapor may not be negligible compared with the density of the liquid and the working equation of the viscometer has to account for that. See Section 11 for details.

1.2 **WARNING**—Mercury has been designated by many regulatory agencies as a hazardous substance that can cause serious medical issues. Mercury, or its vapor, has been demonstrated to be hazardous to health and corrosive to materials. Use Caution when handling mercury and mercury-containing products. See the applicable product Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for additional information. The potential exists that selling mercury or mercury-containing products, or both, is prohibited by local or national law. Users must determine legality of sales in their location.

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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* For specific warning statements, see 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, and Annex A1.

1.4 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the*

Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*²

D445 Test Method for Kinematic Viscosity of Transparent and Opaque Liquids (and Calculation of Dynamic Viscosity)

D446 Specifications and Operating Instructions for Glass Capillary Kinematic Viscometers

D2162 Practice for Basic Calibration of Master Viscometers and Viscosity Oil Standards

E1 Specification for ASTM Liquid-in-Glass Thermometers
SI 10 IEEE/ASTM Standard for Use of the International System of Units (SI): The Modern Metric System

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:*

3.1.1 *density*—the mass per unit volume of a substance at a given temperature and pressure.

3.1.1.1 *Discussion*—The cgs unit of density (ρ) has the dimensions of grams per cubic centimetre. The SI unit of density has the dimensions of kilograms per cubic metre.

3.1.2 *dynamic viscosity, η , n* —the ratio between the applied shear stress and rate of shear of a material.

3.1.2.1 *Discussion*—It is sometimes called the coefficient of dynamic viscosity or absolute viscosity. Dynamic viscosity is a measure of resistance to flow or deformation which constitutes a material's ability to transfer momentum in response to steady or time-dependent external shear forces. Dynamic viscosity has the dimension of mass divided by length and time and its SI unit is pascal times second (Pa·s). Among the transport properties for heat, mass, and momentum transfer, dynamic viscosity is the momentum conductivity.

3.1.3 *kinematic viscosity, ν , n* —the ratio of the dynamic viscosity (η) to the density (ρ) of a material at the same temperature and pressure.

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of Committee D02 on Petroleum Products, Liquid Fuels, and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.L0.07 on Engineering Sciences of High Performance Fluids and Solids (Formerly D02.1100).

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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.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard