Designation: D5453 – 09

Standard Test Method for Determination of Total Sulfur in Light Hydrocarbons, Spark Ignition Engine Fuel, Diesel Engine Fuel, and Engine Oil by Ultraviolet Fluorescence[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5453; 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 determination of total sulfur in liquid hydrocarbons, boiling in the range from approximately 25 to 400°C, with viscosities between approximately 0.2 and 20 cSt (mm^2/S) at room temperature.

1.2 Three separate interlaboratory studies (ILS) on precision, and three other investigations that resulted in an ASTM research report, have determined that this test method is applicable to naphthas, distillates, engine oil, ethanol, Fatty Acid Methyl Ester (FAME), and engine fuel such as gasoline, oxygen enriched gasoline (ethanol blends, E-85, M-85, RFG), diesel, biodiesel, diesel/biodiesel blends, and jet fuel. Samples containing 1.0 to 8000 mg/kg total sulfur can be analyzed (Note 1).

NOTE 1—Estimates of the pooled limit of quantification (PLOQ) for the precision studies were calculated. Values ranged between less than 1.0 and less than 5.0 mg/kg (see Section 8 and 15.1).

1.3 This test method is applicable for total sulfur determination in liquid hydrocarbons containing less than 0.35 % (m/m) halogen(s).

1.4 The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard. No other units of measurement are included in this standard.

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 warning statements, see 3.1, 6.3, 6.4, Section 7, and 8.1.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*[2]

D1298 Test Method for Density, Relative Density (Specific Gravity), or API Gravity of Crude Petroleum and Liquid Petroleum Products by Hydrometer Method

D4052 Test Method for Density and Relative Density of Liquids by Digital Density Meter

D4057 Practice for Manual Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

D4177 Practice for Automatic Sampling of Petroleum and Petroleum Products

D6299 Practice for Applying Statistical Quality Assurance and Control Charting Techniques to Evaluate Analytical Measurement System Performance

3. Summary of Test Method

3.1 A hydrocarbon sample is either directly injected or placed in a sample boat. The sample or boat, or both, is inserted into a high temperature combustion tube where the sulfur is oxidized to sulfur dioxide (SO_2) in an oxygen rich atmosphere. Water produced during the sample combustion is removed and the sample combustion gases are next exposed to ultraviolet (UV) light. The SO_2 absorbs the energy from the UV light and is converted to excited sulfur dioxide (SO_2*). The fluorescence emitted from the excited SO_2* as it returns to a stable state, SO_2, is detected by a photomultiplier tube and the resulting signal is a measure of the sulfur contained in the sample. (**Warning**—Exposure to excessive quantities of ultraviolet (UV) light is injurious to health. The operator must avoid exposing any part of their person, especially their eyes, not only to direct UV light but also to secondary or scattered radiation that is present.)

[1] This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D02 on Petroleum Products and Lubricants and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D02.03 on Elemental Analysis.

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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.**

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