



Standard Test Method for (Analytical Procedure) Determining Transmissivity, Storage Coefficient, and Anisotropy Ratio from a Network of Partially Penetrating Wells¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D5850; 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 an analytical procedure for determining the transmissivity, storage coefficient, and ratio of vertical to horizontal hydraulic conductivity of a confined aquifer using observation well drawdown measurements from a constant-rate pumping test. This test method uses data from a minimum of four partially penetrating, properly positioned observation wells around a partially penetrating control well.

1.2 The analytical procedure is used in conjunction with the field procedure in Test Method [D4050](#).

1.3 *Limitations*—The limitations of the technique for determination of the horizontal and vertical hydraulic conductivity of aquifers are primarily related to the correspondence between the field situation and the simplifying assumption of this test method.

1.4 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The SI units given in parentheses are for information only.

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.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[D653 Terminology Relating to Soil, Rock, and Contained Fluids](#)

[D4050 Test Method for \(Field Procedure\) for Withdrawal and Injection Well Testing for Determining Hydraulic](#)

Properties of Aquifer Systems

[D5473 Test Method for \(Analytical Procedure for\) Analyzing the Effects of Partial Penetration of Control Well and Determining the Horizontal and Vertical Hydraulic Conductivity in a Nonleaky Confined Aquifer](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *aquifer, confined*—an aquifer bounded above and below by confining beds and in which the static head is above the top of the aquifer.

3.1.2 *confining bed*—a hydrogeologic unit of less permeable material bounding one or more aquifers.

3.1.3 *control well*—well by which the head and flow in the aquifer is changed, for example, by pumping, injection, or imposing a constant change of head.

3.1.4 *drawdown*—vertical distance the static head is lowered due to the removal of water.

3.1.5 *hydraulic conductivity*—(field aquifer test) the volume of water at the existing kinematic viscosity that will move in a unit time under a unit hydraulic gradient through a unit area measured at right angles to the direction of flow.

3.1.6 *observation well*—a well open to all or part of an aquifer.

3.1.7 *piezometer*—a device so constructed and sealed as to measure hydraulic head at a point in the subsurface.

3.1.8 *storage coefficient*—the volume of water an aquifer releases from or takes into storage per unit surface area of the aquifer per unit change in head.

3.1.9 *transmissivity*—the volume of water at the existing kinematic viscosity that will move in a unit time under a unit hydraulic gradient through a unit width of the aquifer.

3.1.10 For definitions of other terms used in this test method, see Terminology [D653](#).

3.2 Symbols and Dimensions:

3.2.1 $A=K_z/K_r$, anisotropy ratio [nd].

3.2.2 b —thickness of aquifer [L].

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D18 on Soil and Rock and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D18.21 on Groundwater and Vadose Zone Investigations.

Current edition approved May 1, 2012. Published December 2012. Originally approved in 1995. Last previous edition approved in 2006 as D5850 – 95 (2006). DOI: 10.1520/D5850-95R12.

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.