



Designation: E354 – 21^{ε1}

Standard Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of High-Temperature, Electrical, Magnetic, and Other Similar Iron, Nickel, and Cobalt Alloys¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation E354; 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.

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

^{ε1} NOTE—Editorial corrections were made in Table 5 in February 2022.

1. Scope

1.1 These test methods cover the chemical analysis of high-temperature, electrical, magnetic, and other similar iron, nickel, and cobalt alloys having chemical compositions within the following limits:

Element	Composition Range, %
Aluminum	0.005 to 18.00
Beryllium	0.001 to 0.05
Boron	0.001 to 1.00
Calcium	0.002 to 0.05
Carbon	0.001 to 1.10
Chromium	0.10 to 33.00
Cobalt	0.10 to 75.00
Columbium (Niobium)	0.01 to 6.0
Copper	0.01 to 10.00
Iron	0.01 to 85.00
Magnesium	0.001 to 0.05
Manganese	0.01 to 3.0
Molybdenum	0.01 to 30.0
Nickel	0.10 to 84.0
Nitrogen	0.001 to 0.20
Phosphorus	0.002 to 0.08
Silicon	0.01 to 5.00
Sulfur	0.002 to 0.10
Tantalum	0.005 to 10.0
Titanium	0.01 to 5.00
Tungsten	0.01 to 18.00
Vanadium	0.01 to 3.25
Zirconium	0.01 to 2.50

1.2 The test methods in this standard are contained in the sections indicated below:

	Sections
Aluminum, Total, by the 8-Quinololin Gravimetric Method (0.20 % to 7.00 %)	100 – 107

¹ These test methods are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E01 on Analytical Chemistry for Metals, Ores, and Related Materials and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E01.01 on Iron, Steel, and Ferroalloys.

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Carbon, Total, by the Combustion-Thermal Conductivity Method— <i>Discontinued 1986</i>	124 – 134
Carbon, Total, by the Combustion Gravimetric Method (0.05 % to 1.10 %)— <i>Discontinued 2014</i>	79 – 89
Chromium by the Atomic Absorption Spectrometry Method (0.006 % to 1.00 %)	165 – 174
Chromium by the Peroxydisulfate Oxidation—Titration Method (0.10 % to 33.00 %)	175 – 183
Chromium by the Peroxydisulfate-Oxidation Titrimetric Method— <i>Discontinued 1980</i>	116 – 123
Cobalt by the Ion-Exchange-Potentiometric Titration Method (2 % to 75 %)	53 – 60
Cobalt by the Nitroso-R-Salt Spectrophotometric Method (0.10 % to 5.0 %)	61 – 70
Copper by Neocuproine Spectrophotometric Method (0.01 % to 10.00 %)	90 – 99
Copper by the Sulfide Precipitation-Electrodeposition Gravimetric Method (0.01 % to 10.00 %)	71 – 78
Iron by the Silver Reduction Titrimetric Method (1.0 % to 50.0 %)	192 – 199
Manganese by the Metaperiodate Spectrophotometric Method (0.05 % to 2.00 %)	9 – 18
Molybdenum by the Ion Exchange—8-Hydroxyquinoline Gravimetric Method (1.5 % to 30 %)	184 – 191
Molybdenum by the Thiocyanate Spectrophotometric Method (0.01 % to 1.50 %)	153 – 164
Nickel by the Dimethylglyoxime Gravimetric Method (0.1 % to 84.0 %)	135 – 142
Phosphorus by the Molybdenum Blue Spectrophotometric Method (0.002 % to 0.08 %)	19 – 30
Silicon by the Gravimetric Method (0.05 % to 5.00 %)	46 – 52
Sulfur by the Gravimetric Method— <i>Discontinued 1988</i>	Former 30 – 36
Sulfur by the Combustion-Iodate Titration Method (0.005 % to 0.1 %)— <i>Discontinued 2014</i>	37 – 45
Sulfur by the Chromatographic Gravimetric Method— <i>Discontinued 1980</i>	108 – 115
Tin by the Solvent Extraction—Atomic Absorption Spectrometry Method (0.002 % to 0.10 %)	143 – 152

1.3 Methods for the determination of carbon and sulfur not included in this standard can be found in Test Methods E1019.

1.4 Some of the composition ranges given in 1.1 are too broad to be covered by a single method and therefore this standard contains multiple methods for some elements. The user must select the proper method by matching the information given in the Scope and Interference sections of each method with the composition of the alloy to be analyzed.

1.5 *Units*—The values stated in SI units are to be regarded as standard.

1.6 *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.* Specific hazards statements are given in Section 6 and in special “Warning” paragraphs throughout these test methods.

1.7 *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

[D1193 Specification for Reagent Water](#)

[E29 Practice for Using Significant Digits in Test Data to Determine Conformance with Specifications](#)

[E50 Practices for Apparatus, Reagents, and Safety Considerations for Chemical Analysis of Metals, Ores, and Related Materials](#)

[E60 Practice for Analysis of Metals, Ores, and Related Materials by Spectrophotometry](#)

[E135 Terminology Relating to Analytical Chemistry for Metals, Ores, and Related Materials](#)

[E173 Practice for Conducting Interlaboratory Studies of Methods for Chemical Analysis of Metals \(Withdrawn 1998\)³](#)

[E350 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Carbon Steel, Low-Alloy Steel, Silicon Electrical Steel, Ingot Iron, and Wrought Iron](#)

[E351 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Cast Iron—All Types](#)

[E352 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Tool Steels and Other Similar Medium- and High-Alloy Steels](#)

[E353 Test Methods for Chemical Analysis of Stainless, Heat-Resisting, Maraging, and Other Similar Chromium-Nickel-Iron Alloys](#)

[E882 Guide for Accountability and Quality Control in the Chemical Analysis Laboratory](#)

[E1019 Test Methods for Determination of Carbon, Sulfur, Nitrogen, and Oxygen in Steel, Iron, Nickel, and Cobalt Alloys by Various Combustion and Inert Gas Fusion Techniques](#)

[E1601 Practice for Conducting an Interlaboratory Study to Evaluate the Performance of an Analytical Method](#)

[E1806 Practice for Sampling Steel and Iron for Determination of Chemical Composition](#)

2.2 *Other Document:*⁴

[ISO 5725 Precision of Test Methods—Determination of Repeatability and Reproducibility for Inter-Laboratory Tests](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 For definitions of terms used in these test methods, refer to Terminology [E135](#).

4. Significance and Use

4.1 These test methods for the chemical analysis of metals and alloys are primarily intended as referee methods to test such materials for compliance with compositional specifications, particularly those under the jurisdiction of the ASTM Committee A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel and Related Alloys. It is assumed that all who use these test methods will be trained analysts capable of performing common laboratory procedures skillfully and safely. It is expected that work will be performed in a properly equipped laboratory under appropriate quality control practices such as those described in Guide [E882](#).

5. Apparatus, Reagents, and Instrumental Practice

5.1 *Apparatus*—Specialized apparatus requirements are listed in the “Apparatus” section in each method.

5.1.1 In the methods specifying spectrophotometric testing, the cells utilized to contain the reference material solutions and sample solutions in spectrophotometers are referred to as “absorption cells.” Please note that the radiant energy passed through the cells can be measured as absorbance or transmittance. These methods refer to absorbance measurements. Refer to Practices [E60](#) for details.

5.2 *Reagents:*

5.2.1 *Purity of Reagents*—Reagent grade chemicals shall be used in all tests. Unless otherwise indicated, it is intended that all reagents conform to the specifications of the Committee on Analytical Reagents of the American Chemical Society where such specifications are available. Other grades may be used, provided it is first ascertained that the reagent is of sufficiently high purity to permit its use without lessening the accuracy of the determination.

5.2.2 *Purity of Water*—Unless otherwise indicated, references to water shall mean reagent water as conforming to Type I or Type II of Specification [D1193](#). Type III or IV may be used if they effect no measurable change in the blank or sample.

5.3 *Spectrophotometric Practice*—Spectrophotometric practice prescribed in these test methods shall conform to Practice [E60](#).

6. Hazards

6.1 For precautions to be observed in the use of certain reagents and equipment in these methods, refer to Practices [E50](#).

7. Sampling

7.1 For procedures to sample the material, refer to Practice [E1806](#).

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.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

⁴ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

8. Interlaboratory Studies and Rounding Calculated Values

8.1 These test methods have been evaluated in accordance with Practice E173 (withdrawn 1997) or ISO 5725. Practice E173 has been replaced by Practice E1601. The Reproducibility, R2, of Practice E173 corresponds to the Reproducibility Index, R, of Practice E1601. The Repeatability, R1, of Practice E173 corresponds to the Repeatability Index, r, of Practice E1601.

8.2 Rounding of test results obtained using this test method shall be performed as directed in Practice E29, Rounding Method, unless an alternative rounding method is specified by the customer or applicable material specification.

MANGANESE BY THE METAPERIODATE SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC METHOD

9. Scope

9.1 This method covers the determination of manganese from 0.05 % to 2.00 %.

9.2 *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.*

10. Summary of Method

10.1 Manganous ions are oxidized to permanganate ions by treatment with periodate. Tungsten, when present at compositions greater than 0.5 %, is kept in solution with H₃PO₄. Solutions of the samples are fumed with HClO₄ so that the effect of periodate is limited to the oxidation of manganese. Spectrophotometric absorbance measurements are made at 545 nm.

11. Concentration Range

11.1 The recommended concentration range is 0.15 mg to 0.8 mg of manganese per 50 mL of solution, using a 1-cm cell (Note 1) and a spectrophotometer with a band width of 10 nm or less.

NOTE 1—This method has been written for cells having a 1-cm light path and a “narrow-band” instrument. The concentration range depends upon band width and spectral region used as well as cell optical path length. Cells having other dimensions may be used, provided suitable adjustments can be made in the amounts of sample and reagents used.

12. Stability of Color

12.1 The color is stable for at least 24 h.

13. Interferences

13.1 HClO₄ acid treatment, which is used in the procedure, yields solutions which can be highly colored due to the presence of Cr (VI) ions. Although these ions and other colored ions in the sample solution undergo no further change in color quality upon treatment with metaperiodate ion, the following precautions must be observed when filter spectrophotometers are used: Select a filter with maximum transmittance between

545 nm and 565 nm. The filter must transmit not more than 5 % of its maximum at a wavelength shorter than 530 nm. The band width of the filter should be less than 30 nm when measured at 50 % of its maximum transmittance. Similar restrictions apply with respect to the wavelength region employed when other “wide-band” instruments are used.

13.2 The spectral transmittance curve of permanganate ions exhibits two useful minima, one at approximately 526 nm, and the other at 545 nm. The latter is recommended when a “narrow-band” spectrophotometer is used.

13.3 Tungsten, when present in amounts of more than 0.5 % interferes by producing a turbidity in the final solution. A special procedure is provided for use with samples containing more than 0.5 % tungsten which eliminates the problem by preventing the precipitation of the tungsten.

14. Reagents

14.1 *Manganese, Standard Solution* (1 mL = 0.032 mg Mn)—Transfer the equivalent of 0.4000 g of assayed, high-purity manganese (purity: 99.99 % minimum), to a 500-mL volumetric flask and dissolve in 20 mL of HNO₃ by heating. Cool, dilute to volume, and mix. Using a pipet, transfer 20 mL to a 500-mL volumetric flask, dilute to volume, and mix.

14.2 *Nitric-Phosphoric Acid Mixture*—Cautiously, while stirring, add 100 mL of HNO₃ and 400 mL of H₃PO₄ to 400 mL of water. Cool, dilute to 1 L, and mix. Prepare fresh as needed.

14.3 *Potassium Metaperiodate Solution* (7.5 g/L)—Dissolve 7.5 g of potassium metaperiodate (KIO₄) in 200 mL of hot HNO₃ (1 + 1), add 400 mL of H₃PO₄, cool, dilute to 1 L, and mix.

14.4 *Water, Pretreated with Metaperiodate*—Add 20 mL of KIO₄ solution to 1 L of water, mix, heat at not less than 90 °C for 20 min to 30 min, and cool. Use this water to dilute solutions to volume that have been treated with KIO₄ solution to oxidize manganese, and thus avoid reduction of permanganate ions by any reducing agents in the untreated water. **Caution**—Avoid the use of this water for other purposes.

15. Preparation of Calibration Curve

15.1 *Calibration Solutions*—Using pipets, transfer 5 mL, 10 mL, 15 mL, 20 mL, and 25 mL of manganese standard solution (1 mL = 0.032 mg Mn) to 50-mL borosilicate glass volumetric flasks, and, if necessary, dilute to approximately 25 mL. Proceed as directed in 15.3.

15.2 *Reference Solution*—Transfer approximately 25 mL of water to a 50-mL borosilicate glass volumetric flask. Proceed as directed in 15.3.

15.3 *Color Development*—Add 10 mL of KIO₄ solution, and heat the solutions at not less than 90 °C for 20 min to 30 min (Note 2). Cool, dilute to volume with pretreated water, and mix.

NOTE 2—Immersing the flasks in a boiling water bath is a preferred means of heating them for the specified period to ensure complete color development.

15.4 *Spectrophotometry*: