

Surface-active substances

Determination of surface tension

Scope

This document lays down test methods for determining the surface tension of liquids, in particular solutions of surfactants. The methods are suitable for the determination of the static surface tension of liquids, e.g. inorganic and organic liquids and solutions.

Brief description

The force, F , is measured which is either exerted by the surface tension on a plate brought vertically into contact with the liquid and completely wetted by it (static method) or which is required to pull a horizontally suspended bracket or ring out of the liquid surface (quasi-static method).

In the static method, the plate is immobile, so that an equilibrium value is obtained. The quasi-static method requires movement of the ring or bracket. Sufficiently small and slow changes in the position of the ring or yoke during measurement minimize the deviations from equilibrium.



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