

Manual of Petroleum Measurement Standards Chapter 4.8

Operation of Proving Systems

SECOND EDITION, SEPTEMBER 2013



AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE

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Contents

	Page
1 Scope	1
2 Normative References.....	1
3 Terms and Definitions.....	1
4 Basic Principles.....	2
5 The Need to Prove.....	2
6 Frequency of Meter Proving.....	2
7 General Considerations for Meters and Provers.....	3
7.1 General.....	3
7.2 Data Recording.....	3
7.3 Temperature and Pressure Measurements.....	3
7.4 Operating Pressure.....	4
7.5 Density.....	4
7.6 Proving Meters with Pulse Output.....	4
7.7 Proving Meters Utilizing Totalizers.....	4
8 Proving Locations.....	5
8.1 General.....	5
8.2 In Situ Proving.....	5
8.3 Laboratory Proving.....	5
8.4 Ex Situ Proving.....	5
9 Types of Provers.....	5
9.1 General.....	5
9.2 Displacement Provers.....	6
9.3 Tank Prover.....	8
9.4 Master Meter Prover.....	9
10 Prover Calibration Frequency.....	10
10.1 Displacement and Tank Provers.....	10
10.2 Master Meter Provers.....	11
11 Proving Methods.....	12
11.1 Volumetric Proving.....	12
11.2 Direct Mass Proving.....	12
11.3 Inferred Mass Proving.....	13
12 Assessment of Proving Results.....	13
12.1 The Number of Runs.....	13
12.2 Meter Factor.....	13
12.3 Application of Meter factors.....	14
13 Proving Concerns.....	14
13.1 Flow Conditioning.....	14
13.2 Temperature and Pressure Variations.....	15
13.3 Viscosity Variation.....	15
13.4 Valve(s) Leakage.....	15
13.5 Displacer Slippage.....	16
13.6 Meter Wear.....	16
13.7 Effect of Electrical Disturbance.....	16

Contents

	Page
13.8 Flow Rate Variation	16
13.9 Meter Registration (Head) Check	16
13.10 Meter and Prover Design	17
13.11 Meter and Prover Combinations	17
13.12 Air/Vapor in the Proving System	17
13.13 Cavitation	17
13.14 Debris and Coating	17
13.15 Physical Damage	17
13.16 Computational Master Meter Provers Zero	18
Annex A (normative) Evaluating Meter Proving Data	19
Annex B (normative) Method for Determining the Frequency of Calibrating Provers	22
Annex C (informative) Meter Prover Operation	25
Annex D (informative) Proving Form Examples	36
Bibliography	40
Figures	
D.1 Proving Example—Inferred Mass Proving	37
D.2 Proving Example—Direct Mass Proving	38
D.3 Proving Example—Volumetric Proving	39
Tables	
A.1 Repeatability Criteria for 0.027 % Uncertainty (Preferred Uncertainty) For ± 0.00027 Random Uncertainty in Average Meter Factor	20
A.2 Repeatability Criteria for 0.073 % Uncertainty (Limited Volume Proving) For ± 0.00073 Random Uncertainty in Average Meter Factor	21
B.1 Prover Calibration Frequency Example	23
B.2 Example Table—Dynamic or Tank Prover Calibration Frequency For 0.06 % Volume Change Benchmark	24
B.3 Determining the Frequency of Prover Calibration	24
C.1 Repeatability Criteria for 0.027 % Uncertainty For ± 0.00027 Random Uncertainty in Average Meter Factor	34
C.2 Suggested Minimum Prover Volume for ± 0.027 % Uncertainty of Meter Factor when Proving Ultrasonic Flow Meters	35

Introduction

This guide is intended to provide essential information on the operation of the various meter proving systems used in the petroleum industry.

In the petroleum industry, the term proving is used to refer to the testing of liquid petroleum meters. A meter is proved by comparing a known prover volume (mass) to an indicated meter volume (mass). For volume proving, the meter and prover volumes are subjected to a series of calculations using correction factors to convert volumes to standard conditions for the effects of temperature and pressure to establish a meter factor. For mass proving, the prover volume is converted to prover mass by the measurement or calculation of density at the prover in order to compare the meter mass to the prover mass, or by the use of a Coriolis master meter, to establish a meter factor.

Liquid petroleum meters used for custody transfer measurement require periodic proving to verify accuracy and repeatability and to establish valid meter factors.

Displacement, master meter, and tank provers vary in size and may be permanently installed or mobile. These prover types are described in their respective section *API Manual of Petroleum Measurement Standards* Chapter 4, *Proving Systems*.

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Operation of Proving Systems

1 Scope

This guide provides information for operating meter provers on single-phase liquid hydrocarbons. It is intended for use as a reference manual for operating proving systems.

The requirements of this chapter are based on customary practices for single-phase liquids. This standard is primarily written for hydrocarbons, but much of the information in this chapter may be applicable to other liquids. Specific requirements for other liquids should be agreeable to the parties involved.

2 Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

API MPMS Chapter 4.2, *Displacement Provers*

API MPMS Chapter 4.4, *Tank Provers*

API MPMS Chapter 4.5, *Master-Meter Provers*

API MPMS Chapter 4.6, *Pulse Interpolation*

API MPMS Chapter 5.1, *General Considerations for Measurement by Meters*

API MPMS Chapter 5.2, *Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Displacement Meters*

API MPMS Chapter 5.3, *Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Turbine Meters*

API MPMS Chapter 5.4, *Accessory Equipment for Liquid Meters*

API MPMS Chapter 5.5, *Fidelity and Security of Flow Measurement Pulsed-Data Transmission Systems*

API MPMS Chapter 5.6, *Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Coriolis Meters*

API MPMS Chapter 5.8, *Measurement of Liquid Hydrocarbons by Ultrasonic Flow Meters Using Transit Time Technology*

API MPMS Chapter 11.2, *Dynamic Temperature Determination*

API MPMS Chapter 12.2, (all parts) *Calculation of Petroleum Quantities Using Dynamic Measurement Methods and Volumetric Correction Factors*

API MPMS Chapter 13.1, *Statistical Concepts and Procedures in Measurement*

API MPMS Chapter 13.2, *Statistical Methods of Evaluating Meter Proving Data*

3 Terms and Definitions

No definitions are unique to this document.