

Using Urinometer

Procedure:

To determine specific gravity, proceed as follows:

Clean urinometer as described in the following CLEANING section.

Urinometer:

- 1) Fill the urinometer cylinder to about one inch from the top with urine specimen; measure and record specimen temperature.
- 2) Hold the urinometer float by the top and slowly insert it into the cylinder. Avoid wetting the float stem above the liquid line; excessive wetting of the stem will cause the float to sink below the true test reading.
- 3) Impart a slight spin to the float as it is released.
- 4) Read the float scale at the lowest portion of the urine's meniscus. Be sure to keep the float away from sides of cylinder while reading.

Note: If it is necessary to read the top of the meniscus, as in the case of an opaque specimen, add 0.002 to the specific gravity reading to correct for viewing error.

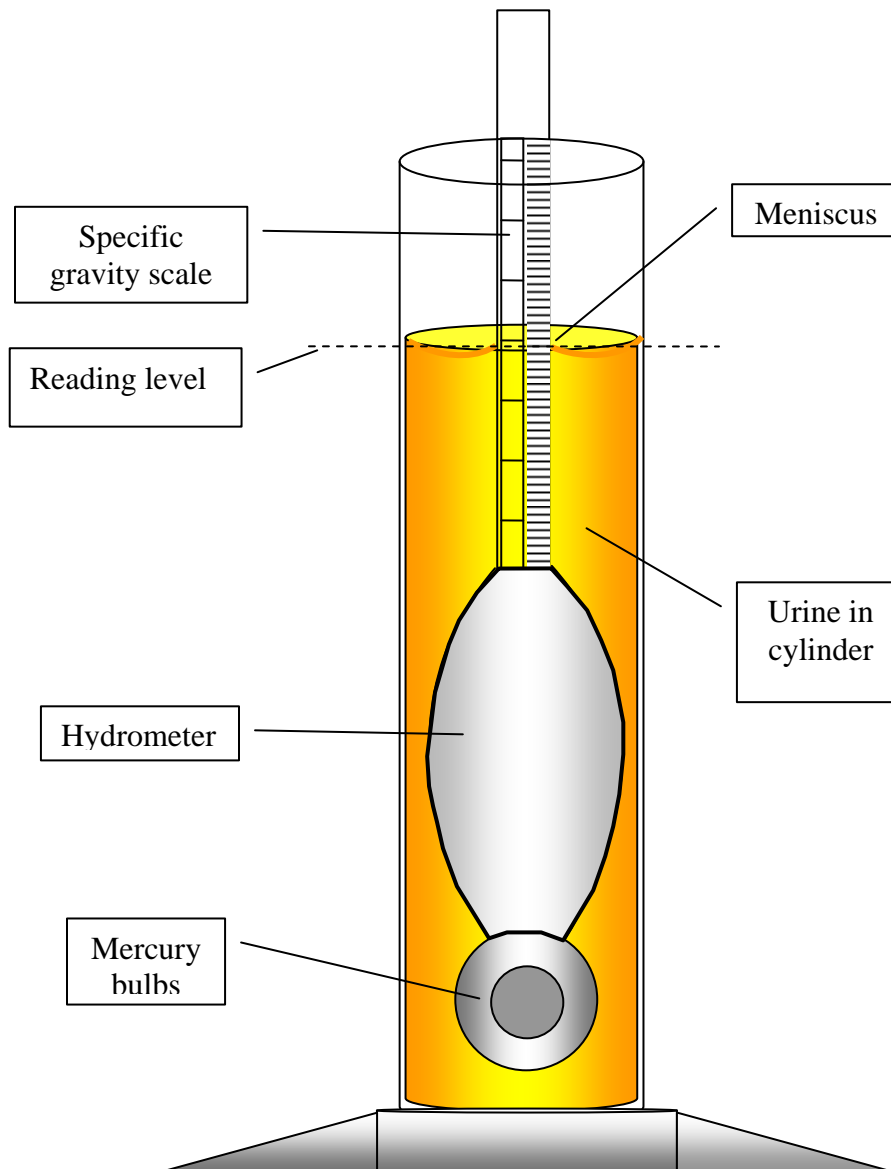
Apply temperature correction as necessary:

For example:

- a) The urinometer shows a Sp.G. of 1.015 and the measured urine specimen temperature is 82°F. Again, for every 5.4°F (3°C) that the urine temperature is above calibration temperature, add .001 to the hydrometer reading.
- b) Subtract: $82^{\circ}\text{F} - 60^{\circ}\text{F} = 22^{\circ}\text{F}$
- c) Divide: $22/5.4 = 4.07 = 4.00$ (rounded)
- d) Add: $1.015 + .004 = 1.019$
- e) Corrected measurement: 1.019

Cleaning and Storage

1. Sterilize both float and cylinder thoroughly after each use.
2. Store in a clean, dust-free environment.



With the urinometer floating in a cylinder of urine, position your eye at a level even with the bottom of the meniscus and read the specific gravity from the scale printed on the urinometer.