



— **University of Mosul** —  
**College of Petroleum & Mining Engineering**



# **Analytical Chemistry**

Lecture ...(2)....

**Petroleum and Refining Engineering Department**

# Lec -2- Analytical Chemistry Applications in Petroleum Engineering: Quantitative and Qualitative Techniques with Practical Calculations

## **Part 1: Quantitative Analytical Chemistry**

### **1. API Gravity**

As mentioned in the first lecture, **API gravity** is a measure of how heavy or light crude oil is. The formula used for calculating API gravity is:

**Formula:**

$$\text{API Gravity} = \frac{141.5}{SG} - 131.5$$

#### **Example Question 1:**

Crude oil specific gravity = **0.82**.

Find the API gravity.

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Step 1: Plug into formula:

$$\text{API} = \frac{141.5}{0.82} - 131.5$$

Step 2: Calculate:

$$\frac{141.5}{0.82} = 172.56$$

$$172.56 - 131.5 = 41.06$$

✓ **API Gravity = 41.1°**

✓ Conclusion: **Light crude oil** (very valuable).

### **Example Question 2:**

Crude oil SG = **0.93**. Find API gravity.

**Solution:**

$$\text{API} = \frac{141.5}{0.93} - 131.5$$

$$= 152.15 - 131.5$$

$$= 20.65$$

**Table 2: Key Analytical Methods in Refinery Operations**

<b>Analytical Technique</b>	<b>Measured Parameter</b>	<b>Petroleum Application</b>
<b>Gas Chromatography (GC)</b>	Hydrocarbon composition	Reformate analysis
<b>UV-Vis Spectroscopy</b>	Aromatic content	Gasoline quality
<b>X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF)</b>	Sulfur content	Diesel sulfur testing
<b>Titration</b>	Acid/Base number	Lube oil stability
<b>ICP-OES</b>	Trace metals (e.g., V, Ni, Fe)	Crude oil corrosion control

✓ **Sulfur content = 60 ppm**

✓ Interpretation: Too high if limit is 15 ppm (must be reduced).

#### **Example Question 4:**

Gasoline contains **150 ppm** sulfur.  
Convert to % weight.

**Solution:**

$$\text{Weight \%} = \frac{\text{ppm}}{10,000}$$

$$\text{Weight \%} = \frac{150}{10,000} = 0.015\%$$

✓ **Sulfur content = 0.015%**

✓ Interpretation: Acceptable for regular gasoline (limit varies by country).

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## Common ASTM Tests for Petroleum Products:

These are **important tests** used to measure the quality of petroleum products:

1. **D86 – Distillation Curve (Boiling Points):**

- This test checks the **boiling points** of different parts of the petroleum product. It helps determine the best way to separate the **gasoline, diesel**, and other products during refining.

**Numerical Example:**

- If gasoline boils at temperatures between **40°C to 200°C**, this helps the refinery know at what temperature to separate it from other products.

2. **D445 – Kinematic Viscosity:**

- This measures how **thick** or **thin** the product is. If it's too thick, it won't flow well, and if it's too thin, it won't lubricate the engine properly.

**Numerical Example:**

- A **diesel fuel** might have a **viscosity of 2.5 cSt (centistokes)**. This tells us how thick or thin it is. For reference, **thicker** oils have a viscosity higher than **3.0 cSt**, and **thinner oils** have a viscosity **lower than 1.0 cSt**.

3. **D4294 – Sulfur by XRF (X-Ray Fluorescence):**

- This test measures how much **sulfur** is in the product. Too much sulfur in fuel is bad for the environment.