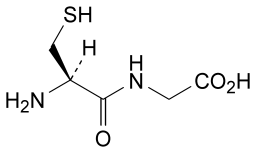
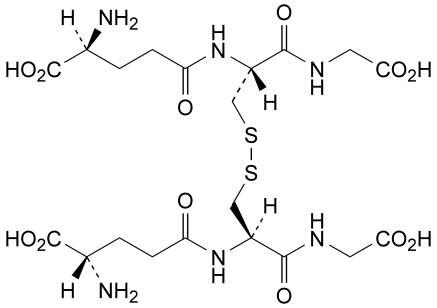
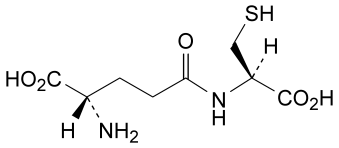


A. L-cysteinylglycine,

B. cysteine,



C. bis(L-γ-glutamyl-L-cysteinylglycine) disulfide (L-glutathione oxidised),



D. L-γ-glutamyl-L-cysteine,

E. unknown structure (product of degradation).

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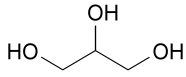
GLYCEROL

Glycerolum



$C_3H_8O_3$ M_r 92.1
[56-81-5]

DEFINITION

Propane-1,2,3-triol.

Content: 98.0 per cent *m/m* to 101.0 per cent *m/m* (anhydrous substance).

CHARACTERS

Aspect: syrupy liquid, unctuous to the touch, colourless or almost colourless, clear, very hygroscopic.

Solubility: miscible with water and with alcohol, slightly soluble in acetone, practically insoluble in fatty oils and in essential oils.

IDENTIFICATION

First identification: A, B.

Second identification: A, C, D.

A. It complies with the test for refractive index (see Tests).

B. Infrared absorption spectrophotometry (*2.2.24*).
Preparation: to 5 ml add 1 ml of *water R* and mix carefully.
Comparison: *Ph. Eur. reference spectrum of glycerol (85 per cent).*

C. Mix 1 ml with 0.5 ml of *nitric acid R*. Superimpose 0.5 ml of *potassium dichromate solution R*. A blue ring develops at the interface of the liquids. Within 10 min, the blue colour does not diffuse into the lower layer.

D. Heat 1 ml with 2 g of *potassium hydrogen sulphate R* in an evaporating dish. Vapours (acrolein) are evolved which blacken filter paper impregnated with *alkaline potassium tetraiodomercurate solution R*.

TESTS

Solution S. Dilute 100.0 g to 200.0 ml with *carbon dioxide-free water R*.

Appearance of solution. Solution S is clear (*2.2.1*). Dilute 10 ml of solution S to 25 ml with *water R*. The solution is colourless (*2.2.2, Method II*).

Acidity or alkalinity. To 50 ml of solution S add 0.5 ml of *phenolphthalein solution R*. The solution is colourless. Not more than 0.2 ml of *0.1 M sodium hydroxide* is required to change the colour of the indicator to pink.

Refractive index (*2.2.6*): 1.470 to 1.475.

Aldehydes: maximum 10 ppm.

Place 7.5 ml of solution S in a ground-glass-stoppered flask and add 7.5 ml of *water R* and 1.0 ml of *decolorised pararosaniline solution R*. Close the flask and allow to stand for 1 h at a temperature of 25 ± 1 °C. The absorbance (*2.2.25*) of the solution measured at 552 nm is not greater than that of a standard prepared at the same time and in the same manner using 7.5 ml of *formaldehyde standard solution (5 ppm CH_2O) R* and 7.5 ml of *water R*. The test is not valid unless the standard is pink.

Esters. Add 10.0 ml of *0.1 M sodium hydroxide* to the final solution obtained in the test for acidity or alkalinity. Boil under a reflux condenser for 5 min. Cool. Add 0.5 ml of *phenolphthalein solution R* and titrate with *0.1 M hydrochloric acid*. Not less than 8.0 ml of *0.1 M hydrochloric acid* is required to change the colour of the indicator.

Impurity A and related substances. Gas chromatography (*2.2.28*).

Test solution. Dilute 10.0 ml of solution S to 100.0 ml with *water R*.

Reference solution (a). Dilute 10.0 g of *glycerol R1* to 20.0 ml with *water R*. Dilute 10.0 ml of the solution to 100.0 ml with *water R*.

Reference solution (b). Dissolve 1.000 g of *diethylene glycol R* in *water R* and dilute to 100.0 ml with the same solvent.

Reference solution (c). Dilute 1.0 ml of reference solution (b) to 10.0 ml with reference solution (a). Dilute 1.0 ml of this solution to 20.0 ml with reference solution (a).

Reference solution (d). Mix 1.0 ml of the test solution and 5.0 ml of reference solution (b) and dilute to 100.0 ml with *water R*. Dilute 1.0 ml of this solution to 10.0 ml with *water R*.

Reference solution (e). Dilute 5.0 ml of reference solution (b) to 100.0 ml with *water R*.

Column:

– *size*: *l* = 30 m, Ø = 0.53 mm,

– *stationary phase*: 6 per cent polycyanopropylphenyl siloxane and 94 per cent of polydimethylsiloxane.

Carrier gas: *helium for chromatography R.*

Split ratio: 1:10.

Linear velocity: 38 cm/s.

Temperature:

	Time (min)	Temperature (°C)
Column	0	100
	0 - 16	100 → 220
	16 - 20	220
Injection port		220
Detector		250

Detection: flame ionisation.

Injection: 0.5 µl.

Elution order: impurity A, glycerol.

System suitability: reference solution (d):

– *resolution*: minimum 7.0 between the peaks due to impurity A and glycerol.

Limits:

– *impurity A*: not more than the area of the corresponding peak in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.1 per cent),

– *any other impurity with a retention time less than the retention time of glycerol*: not more than the area of the peak due to impurity A in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.1 per cent),

– *total of all impurities with retention times greater than the retention time of glycerol*: not more than 5 times the area of the peak due to impurity A in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (c) (0.5 per cent),

– *disregard limit*: 0.05 times the area of the peak due to impurity A in the chromatogram obtained with reference solution (e) (0.05 per cent).

Halogenated compounds: maximum 35 ppm.

To 10 ml of solution S add 1 ml of *dilute sodium hydroxide solution R*, 5 ml of *water R* and 50 mg of *halogen-free nickel-aluminium alloy R*. Heat on a water-bath for 10 min, allow to cool and filter. Rinse the flask and the filter with *water R* until 25 ml of filtrate is obtained. To 5 ml of the filtrate add 4 ml of *alcohol R*, 2.5 ml of *water R*, 0.5 ml of *nitric acid R* and 0.05 ml of *silver nitrate solution R2* and mix. Allow to stand for 2 min. Any opalescence in the solution is not more intense than that in a standard prepared at the same time by mixing 7.0 ml of *chloride standard solution (5 ppm Cl) R*, 4 ml of *alcohol R*, 0.5 ml of *water R*, 0.5 ml of *nitric acid R* and 0.05 ml of *silver nitrate solution R2*.

Sugars. To 10 ml of solution S add 1 ml of *dilute sulphuric acid R* and heat on a water-bath for 5 min. Add 3 ml of carbonate-free *dilute sodium hydroxide solution R* (prepared by the method described for carbonate-free *1 M sodium hydroxide* (*4.2.2*)), mix and add dropwise 1 ml of freshly prepared *copper sulphate solution R*. The solution is clear and blue. Continue heating on the water-bath for 5 min. The solution remains blue and no precipitate is formed.

Chlorides (*2.4.4*): maximum 10 ppm.

1 ml of solution S diluted to 15 ml with *water R* complies with the limit test for chlorides. Prepare the standard using 1 ml of *chloride standard solution (5 ppm Cl) R* diluted to 15 ml with *water R*.

Heavy metals (*2.4.8*): maximum 5 ppm.

Dilute 8 ml of solution S to 20 ml with *water R*. 12 ml of the solution complies with limit test A. Prepare the standard using *lead standard solution (1 ppm Pb) R*.

Water (*2.5.12*): maximum 2.0 per cent, determined on 1.000 g.

Sulphated ash (*2.4.14*): maximum 0.01 per cent, determined on 5.0 g after heating to boiling and ignition.

ASSAY

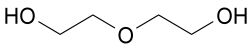
Thoroughly mix 0.075 g with 45 ml of *water R*. Add 25.0 ml of a mixture of 1 volume of *0.1 M sulphuric acid* and 20 volumes of *0.1 M sodium periodate*. Allow to stand protected from light for 15 min. Add 5.0 ml of a 500 g/l solution of *ethylene glycol R* and allow to stand protected from light for 20 min. Using 0.5 ml of *phenolphthalein solution R* as indicator, titrate with *0.1 M sodium hydroxide*. Carry out a blank titration.

1 ml of *0.1 M sodium hydroxide* is equivalent to 9.21 mg of $C_3H_8O_3$.

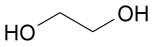
STORAGE

In an airtight container.

IMPURITIES



A. 2,2'-oxydiethanol (diethylene glycol),



B. ethane-1,2-diol (ethylene glycol),

C. propylene glycol.

01/2008:0497

GLYCEROL (85 PER CENT)

Glycerolum (85 per centum)

DEFINITION

Aqueous solution of propane-1,2,3-triol.

Content: 83.5 per cent *m/m* to 88.5 per cent *m/m* of propane-1,2,3-triol ($C_3H_8O_3$; M_r 92.1).

CHARACTERS

Aspect: syrupy liquid, unctuous to the touch, colourless or almost colourless, clear, very hygroscopic.

Solubility: miscible with water and with alcohol, slightly soluble in acetone, practically insoluble in fatty oils and in essential oils.

IDENTIFICATION

First identification: A, B.

Second identification: A, C, D.

A. It complies with the test for refractive index (see Tests).

B. Infrared absorption spectrophotometry (*2.2.24*).
Comparison: *Ph. Eur. reference spectrum of glycerol (85 per cent).*

C. Mix 1 ml with 0.5 ml of *nitric acid R*. Superimpose 0.5 ml of *potassium dichromate solution R*. A blue ring develops at the interface of the liquids. Within 10 min, the blue colour does not diffuse into the lower layer.