
**Paper and board — Determination of
colour by diffuse reflectance —**

**Part 1:
Indoor daylight conditions (C/2°)**

*Papier et carton — Détermination de la couleur par réflectance
diffuse —*

Partie 1: Conditions d'éclairage intérieur de jour (C/2°)



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 5631-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 6, *Paper, board and pulps*.

This first edition of ISO 5631-1 cancels and replaces ISO 5631:2000, which has been technically revised.

ISO 5631 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Paper and board — Determination of colour by diffuse reflectance*:

- *Part 1: Indoor daylight conditions (C/2°)*
- *Part 2: Outdoor daylight conditions (D65/10°)*
- *Part 3: Indoor illumination conditions (D50/2°)*

Introduction

The colour of an object can be uniquely characterized by means of a triplet of colour coordinates such as the 1964 CIE tristimulus values or the CIELAB 1976 L^* , a^* , b^* coordinates.

Apart from the optical properties of the sample, the values of such coordinates depend upon the conditions of measurement, particularly the spectral and geometric characteristics of the instrument used. This part of ISO 5631 should therefore be read in conjunction with ISO 2469.

This part of ISO 5631 describes the measurement and description of colour in terms of the CIE illuminant C and the CIE 1931 (2°) standard observer. The other parts of this International Standard describe measurements and calculations carried out in an analogous manner using either the CIE standard illuminant D65 and the CIE 1964 (10°) standard observer or the CIE illuminant D50 and the CIE 1931 (2°) standard observer.

The choice of illuminant conditions is important when determining the colour coordinates of white papers containing a fluorescent whitening agent. In ISO 5631-2, the UV content of the illumination is much higher, approximating UV levels encountered in outdoor viewing conditions.

ISO 5631-3 describes the measurement and description of colour in terms of the CIE standard illuminant D50 and the CIE 1931 (2°) standard observer. This method is especially applicable to graphic arts situations since these illuminant/observer conditions are used within the graphic arts industry.

Paper and board — Determination of colour by diffuse reflectance —

Part 1: Indoor daylight conditions (C/2°)

1 Scope

This part of ISO 5631 specifies a method for measuring the colour of paper and board by the diffuse reflectance method with the elimination of specular gloss.

This part of ISO 5631 is not applicable to coloured papers or boards which incorporate fluorescent dyes or pigments. It may be used to determine the colour of papers or boards which contain fluorescent whitening agents provided the UV content of the illumination on the test piece has been adjusted to conform to that in the CIE illuminant C, using a fluorescent reference standard provided by an ISO/TC 6 authorized laboratory, as described in ISO 2470-1.

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.

ISO 186, *Paper and board — Sampling to determine average quality*

ISO 2469:2007, *Paper, board and pulps — Measurement of diffuse radiance factor*

ISO 2470-1, *Paper, board and pulps — Measurement of diffuse blue reflectance factor — Part 1: Indoor daylight conditions (ISO brightness)*

CIE Publication 15:2004, *Colorimetry*, 3rd ed.

ASTM E308-06, *Standard Practice for Computing the Colors of Objects by Using the CIE System*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 radiance factor

β

ratio of the radiance of a surface element of a body in the direction delimited by a given cone, with its apex at the surface element, to that of the perfect reflecting diffuser under the same conditions of illumination

NOTE For fluorescent (luminescent) materials, the total radiance factor, β , is the sum of two portions, the reflected radiance factor, β_S , and the luminescent radiance factor, β_L , so that

$$\beta = \beta_S + \beta_L$$

For non-fluorescent materials, the reflected radiance factor, β_S , is numerically equal to the reflectance factor, R .

3.2 reflectance factor

R

ratio of the radiation reflected by a surface element of a body in the direction delimited by a given cone, with its apex at the surface element, to that of the perfect reflecting diffuser under the same conditions of illumination

NOTE 1 The ratio is often expressed as a percentage.

NOTE 2 The reflectance factor is influenced by the backing if the body is translucent.

NOTE 3 The reflectance factor of a non-opaque sheet is dependent on the background and is not a material property.

3.3 intrinsic radiance [reflectance] factor

R_∞

radiance [reflectance] factor of a layer or pad of material thick enough to be opaque, such that increasing the thickness of the pad by doubling the number of sheets results in no change in the measured radiance [reflectance] factor

NOTE The ratio is often expressed as a percentage.

3.4 tristimulus values

X, Y, Z

amounts of the three reference colour stimuli, in a given chromatic system, required to match the stimulus considered

NOTE 1 In this part of ISO 5631, the CIE 1931 (2°) standard observer and the CIE illuminant C are used to define the trichromatic system.

NOTE 2 No subscript is applied to conform to the CIE convention that tristimulus values have no subscript when the CIE 1931 (2°) standard observer is used [the subscript 10 is applied for tristimulus values that are obtained using the CIE 1964 (10°) standard observer].

3.5

CIELAB colour space

three-dimensional, approximately uniform colour space, produced by plotting, in rectangular coordinates L^* , a^* , b^* , quantities defined by the equations given in Clause 9

NOTE The quantity L^* is a measure of the lightness of the test piece, where $L^* = 0$ corresponds to black and $L^* = 100$ is defined by the perfect reflecting diffuser. Visually, the quantities a^* and b^* represent respectively the red-green and yellow-blue axes in colour space, such that

$+a^*$ is a measure of the degree of redness of the test piece,

$-a^*$ is a measure of the degree of greenness of the test piece,

$+b^*$ is a measure of the degree of yellowness of the test piece,

$-b^*$ is a measure of the degree of blueness of the test piece.

If both a^* and b^* are equal to zero, the test piece is grey.

4 Principle

The light reflected from a sample under specified conditions is analysed either by a tristimulus-filter colorimeter or by an abridged spectrophotometer, and the colour coordinates are then calculated for C/2° conditions.

5 Apparatus

5.1 Reflectometer

5.1.1 Reflectometer, having the geometric, spectral and photometric characteristics described in ISO 2469, and calibrated in accordance with the provisions of ISO 2469.

If materials containing fluorescent whitening agents are to be measured, the reflectometer shall be equipped with a radiation source having an adequate UV content control adjusted to a UV condition corresponding to the C illuminant by the use of a reference standard, as described in ISO 2470-1.

5.1.2 In the case of a filter reflectometer, a set of filters that, in conjunction with the optical characteristics of the basic instrument, give overall responses equivalent to the CIE tristimulus values X , Y and Z of the CIE 1931 standard colorimetric system of the test piece evaluated for the CIE illuminant C.

In the case of a filter reflectometer, the radiation falling upon the test piece shall have a UV content corresponding to that of the CIE illuminant C.

5.1.3 In the case of an abridged spectrophotometer, a function that permits calculation of the CIE tristimulus values X , Y and Z of the CIE 1931 standard colorimetric system of the test piece evaluated for the CIE illuminant C using the weighting functions given in Annex A.

In the case of an abridged spectrophotometer, the instrument shall have an adjustable filter with a cut-off wavelength of 395 nm or some other equivalent system, and this filter shall be adjusted or the system shall be calibrated with the help of the fluorescent reference standard (5.2.2), so that the UV content of the illumination falling upon the sample corresponds to that of the CIE illuminant C.

5.2 Reference standards, for calibration of the instrument and the working standards and used frequently enough to ensure satisfactory calibration and UV adjustment.

5.2.1 Non-fluorescent reference standard, for photometric calibration, issued by an ISO/TC 6 authorized laboratory in accordance with the provisions of ISO 2469.

5.2.2 Fluorescent reference standard, for use in adjusting the UV content of the radiation incident upon the sample, having an ISO brightness value assigned by an ISO/TC 6 authorized laboratory, as prescribed in ISO 2470-1.

5.3 Working standards, calibrated frequently enough to ensure that satisfactory calibration is maintained.

5.3.1 Two plates of flat opal glass, made of ceramic or other suitable material, cleaned and calibrated as described in ISO 2469.

NOTE In some instruments, the function of the primary working standard can be taken over by a built-in internal standard.

5.3.2 A stable plastic or other tablet, incorporating a fluorescent whitening agent.

5.4 Black cavity, having a reflectance factor which does not differ from its nominal value by more than 0,2 % at all wavelengths. The black cavity should be stored upside down in a dust-free environment or with a protective cover.

NOTE 1 The reflectance level of the black cavity can be checked by reference to the instrument manufacturer.

NOTE 2 The nominal value is given by the manufacturer.

6 Sampling and conditioning

If the tests are being made to evaluate a lot of paper or board, the sample shall be selected in accordance with ISO 186. If the tests are made on another type of sample, make sure that the test pieces taken are representative of the sample received.

Conditioning according to ISO 187 is recommended but not required, but preconditioning with elevated temperatures should not be applied since it might change the optical properties.

7 Preparation of test pieces

Avoiding watermarks, dirt and obvious defects, cut rectangular test pieces approximately 75 mm × 150 mm. Assemble at least 10 test pieces in a pad with their top sides uppermost; the number should be such that doubling the number of test pieces does not alter the radiance factor. Protect the pad by placing an additional sheet of paper or board on both the top and bottom of the pad. Avoid contamination and unnecessary exposure to light or heat.

Mark the top test piece in one corner to identify the sample and its top side, or to distinguish between the two sides.

If the top side can be distinguished from the wire side, it shall be uppermost; if not, as may be the case for papers manufactured on twin-wire machines, ensure that the same side of the sheet is uppermost.

8 Procedure

8.1 Ensure that calibration has been performed as described in ISO 2470-1 according to the instrument manufacturer's instructions.

8.2 Remove the protective sheets from the top and the bottom of the test piece pad. Without touching the test area, use the procedure appropriate to the instrument to obtain the three CIE tristimulus values of the first test piece (or CIELAB values if the instrument is designed to report directly in this colour space). Read and record the tristimulus values to the nearest 0,01 unit.

8.3 Move the uppermost test piece to the bottom of the pad and determine the values for succeeding test pieces until at least 10 test pieces have been evaluated. If required, repeat the procedure for the other side of the test pieces.

9 Calculation

9.1 CIE tristimulus values

If the instrument has a bandpass of 5 nm or narrower, calculate the CIE tristimulus values in accordance with CIE Publication 15:2004. In all other cases, calculate the tristimulus values using the appropriate weighting functions given in ASTM E308-06. If the instrument does not provide the CIE tristimulus values directly, obtain them by calculation using the tables provided in Annex A.

9.2 CIELAB coordinates

Calculate the CIELAB coordinates from the tristimulus values X , Y , Z , by means of the following equations:

$$L^* = 116(Y/Y_n)^{1/3} - 16 \quad (1)$$

$$a^* = 500 \left[(X/X_n)^{1/3} - (Y/Y_n)^{1/3} \right] \quad (2)$$

$$b^* = 200 \left[(Y/Y_n)^{1/3} - (Z/Z_n)^{1/3} \right] \quad (3)$$

where X_n , Y_n , Z_n are the tristimulus values of the perfect reflecting diffuser under $C/2^\circ$ conditions. These are given as the "white point" values in Annex A.

Alternative equations shall, however, be used if any of the ratios X/X_n , Y/Y_n , $Z/Z_n \leq (24/116)^3$ are satisfied as follows.

- If $(X/X_n) \leq (24/116)^3$, replace the term $(X/X_n)^{1/3}$ in Equation (2) by the expression $(841/108)(X/X_n) + 16/116$.
- If $(Y/Y_n) \leq (24/116)^3$, replace the term $(Y/Y_n)^{1/3}$ in Equations (1), (2) and (3) by the expression $(841/108)(Y/Y_n) + 16/116$.
- If $(Z/Z_n) \leq (24/116)^3$, replace the term $(Z/Z_n)^{1/3}$ in Equation (3) by the expression $(841/108)(Z/Z_n) + 16/116$.

NOTE 1 The term $(24/116)^3$ is approximately equal to 0,008 856.

NOTE 2 The term $(841/108)$ is approximately equal to 7,787.

NOTE 3 Equation (1) transforms to $L^* = 903,3(Y/Y_n)$ when $(Y/Y_n) \leq (24/116)^3$.

9.3 Dispersion of the results

Since the three-dimensional statistical calculations are extremely complicated, the following simple procedure for assessing the dispersion is recommended.

Calculate the mean values $\langle L^* \rangle$, $\langle a^* \rangle$ and $\langle b^* \rangle$ of the L^* , a^* and b^* values.

Calculate, for each test piece, the deviation ΔE_{ab}^* from the mean according to Equation (4):

$$\Delta E_{ab}^* = \sqrt{\left[(\Delta L^*)^2 + (\Delta a^*)^2 + (\Delta b^*)^2 \right]} \quad (4)$$

where ΔL^* , Δa^* and Δb^* are the differences between the L^* , a^* and b^* values of the test piece and the corresponding mean values $\langle L^* \rangle$, $\langle a^* \rangle$, $\langle b^* \rangle$.

Calculate the mean $\langle \Delta E_{ab}^* \rangle$ value. This is known as the Mean Colour Difference from the Mean (MCDM) value and defines the dispersion in terms of a sphere of radius $\langle \Delta E_{ab}^* \rangle$ about the mean point in CIELAB space.

NOTE This calculation uses the expression for the colour difference between two samples which may be calculated in these coordinates as:

$$\Delta E_{ab}^* = \sqrt{[(\Delta L^*)^2 + (\Delta a^*)^2 + (\Delta b^*)^2]} \quad (5)$$

where ΔL^* , Δa^* and Δb^* are the differences between the L^* , a^* and b^* values of the two samples.

The calculation of colour differences is not, however, included in this part of ISO 5631.

10 Expression of results

Report the L^* , a^* and b^* values to three significant figures and the dispersion as the MCDM value to two significant figures.

NOTE Information about the nature of the variations can be obtained by calculating the mean ΔL^* , Δa^* and Δb^* as defined in Equation (4), but this is not included in this part of ISO 5631.

11 Precision

Information relating to the precision of the method is not yet available. It should be noted, however, that, when white or near white samples containing a fluorescent whitening agent are measured, the reproducibility between instruments will be reduced, since the adjustment of the UV content to match that of the CIE illuminant C is limited to a single-point adjustment based on the ISO brightness value of a fluorescent reference standard.

12 Test report

The test report shall include the following information:

- a) a reference to this part of ISO 5631;
- b) the date and place of testing;
- c) the precise identification of the sample and the side or sides tested;
- d) whether the test pieces were conditioned and, if so, the conditioning atmosphere used;
- e) the average colour coordinates and the mean colour difference from the mean (see 9.3) for the required side(s) of the sample;
- f) the type of instrument used;
- g) any departure from this part of ISO 5631 which may have affected the results.

Annex A (normative)

Calculation of tristimulus values

The desired tristimulus values are obtained by summing the products of the spectral radiance factors and the weighting factors, W (see Tables A.1 and A.2) given as Tables 6.5 and 6.6 in ASTM E308-06¹⁾ for the CIE 1931 (2°) observer and the CIE illuminant C.

ASTM E308-06 presents two sets of tables. The tables given in this annex are the tables which should normally be used. They have been prepared to apply a correction for spectral bandpass dependence built into the calculation of the tristimulus values, using data for which the bandpass is approximately equal to the measurement interval.

The figure labelled “Check sum” at the bottom of each column of the tables given in this annex is the algebraic sum of the entries. It provides, as a convenience, a check value to ensure that the tables have been copied correctly, should copying be required. These check sums are not identical to the “White point” data located below them, in most cases because of roundoff. These “White point” data shall be used as X_n , Y_n , Z_n when converting tristimulus values, calculated by use of these tables, to CIELAB coordinates.

The following instructions, taken from ASTM E308-06, section 7.3.2.2, should be applied when the values are not available at the top or at the bottom of the range.

When data for $\beta(\lambda)$ are not available for the full wavelength range from 360 nm to 780 nm, add the weights at the wavelengths for which data are not available to the weights at the shortest or longest wavelength for which spectral data are available, i.e.:

- a) add the weights for all wavelengths (360 nm, ...) for which measured data are not available to the next higher weight for which such data are available;
- b) add the weights for all wavelengths (... , 780 nm) for which measured data are not available to the next lower weight for which such data are available.

In the absence of fluorescence, the spectral radiance factor may be replaced by, or referred to, as the spectral reflectance factor, $R(\lambda)$.

1) Reprinted, with permission, from ASTM E308-06, *Standard Practice for Computing the Colors of Objects by Using the CIE System*, copyright ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428, USA. A copy of the complete standard may be obtained from ASTM (<http://www.astm.org>).

Table A.1 — Weighting factors for instruments measuring at 10 nm intervals

Wavelength nm	W_X	W_Y	W_Z
360	0,000	0,000	0,000
370	0,001	0,000	0,003
380	0,004	0,000	0,017
390	0,015	0,000	0,069
400	0,074	0,002	0,350
410	0,261	0,007	1,241
420	1,170	0,032	5,605
430	3,074	0,118	14,967
440	4,066	0,259	20,346
450	3,951	0,437	20,769
460	3,421	0,684	19,624
470	2,292	1,042	15,153
480	1,066	1,600	9,294
490	0,325	2,332	5,115
500	0,025	3,375	2,788
510	0,052	4,823	1,481
520	0,535	6,468	0,669
530	1,496	7,951	0,381
540	2,766	9,193	0,187
550	4,274	9,889	0,081
560	5,891	9,898	0,036
570	7,353	9,186	0,019
580	8,459	8,008	0,015
590	9,036	6,621	0,010
600	9,005	5,302	0,007
610	8,380	4,168	0,003
620	7,111	3,147	0,001
630	5,300	2,174	0,000
640	3,669	1,427	0,000
650	2,320	0,873	0,000
660	1,333	0,492	0,000
670	0,683	0,250	0,000
680	0,356	0,129	0,000
690	0,162	0,059	0,000
700	0,077	0,028	0,000
710	0,038	0,014	0,000
720	0,018	0,006	0,000
730	0,008	0,003	0,000
740	0,004	0,001	0,000
750	0,002	0,001	0,000
760	0,001	0,000	0,000
770	0,000	0,000	0,000
780	0,000	0,000	0,000
Check sum	98,074	99,999	118,231
White point	98,074	100,000	118,232

Table A.2 — Weighting factors for instruments measuring at 20 nm intervals

Wavelength nm	W_X	W_Y	W_Z
360	0,000	0,000	0,000
380	0,066	0,000	0,311
400	-0,164	0,001	-0,777
420	2,373	0,044	11,296
440	8,595	0,491	42,561
460	6,939	1,308	39,899
480	2,045	3,062	18,451
500	-0,217	6,596	4,728
520	0,881	12,925	1,341
540	5,406	18,650	0,319
560	11,842	20,143	0,059
580	17,169	16,095	0,028
600	18,383	10,537	0,013
620	14,348	6,211	0,002
640	7,148	2,743	0,000
660	2,484	0,911	0,000
680	0,600	0,218	0,000
700	0,136	0,049	0,000
720	0,031	0,011	0,000
740	0,006	0,002	0,000
760	0,002	0,001	0,000
780	0,000	0,000	0,000
Check sum	98,073	99,998	118,231
White point	98,074	100,000	118,232

Bibliography

- [1] ISO 187, *Paper, board and pulps — Standard atmosphere for conditioning and testing and procedure for monitoring the atmosphere and conditioning of samples*
- [2] ISO 10526:2007²⁾, *CIE standard illuminants for colorimetry*
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- [4] CIE Publication 17.4:1987, *International Lighting Vocabulary*. 4th edition, CIE Central Bureau, Kegelgasse 27, A-1030 Vienna, Austria
- [5] ERB, W. and KRYSTEK, K., *Truncation error in colorimetric computations*, Col. Res. Appl. 8, No. 1, 1983

2) Has been withdrawn.

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