



BSI Standards Publication

**Paper, board and pulps –  
Basic terms and equations  
for optical properties**

**National foreword**

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**10688**

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**Paper, board and pulps — Basic terms  
and equations for optical properties**

*Papiers, cartons et pâtes — Équations et termes de base pour  
propriétés optiques*



Reference number  
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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 6, *Paper, board and pulps*.

## Introduction

International Standards published by ISO/TC 6 for the determination of optical properties include a lot of definitions and formulae which are used to perform optical measurements and calculations on papers and boards.

It is very valuable for the pulp and paper industry utilizing these International Standards to have access to a single document which gathers together all the various formulae required for the calculation of these optical properties. This Technical Report is based on a SCAN-test document first published in 1994 and revised in 2003.

This Technical Report includes not only formulae but also the values of various constants which appear in these formulae. It is particularly valuable to have the various formulae but also these constants standardized and gathered into a single document when new software programs are being developed either by an instrument manufacturer or in an independent laboratory to ensure that exactly the same expressions are used for such calculations in all the laboratories worldwide when measurements are made in accordance with the ISO/TC 6 standards.

# Paper, board and pulps — Basic terms and equations for optical properties

## 1 Scope

This Technical Report provides a summary of the formulae used for determining the optical properties of pulp, paper and board. This Technical Report is to be used in conjunction with the particular International Standards for the determination of the desired optical properties.

This Technical Report provides the information necessary for those involved in development of software for computation of optical properties in accordance with current ISO standards.

## 2 Terms and definitions

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

### 2.1 Brightness

#### 2.1.1

##### **ISO brightness, R457**

diffuse blue reflectance factor, UV level C

intrinsic diffuse radiance (reflectance) factor measured with a reflectometer having the characteristics described in ISO 2469, equipped with a filter or corresponding function having an effective wavelength of 457 nm and a half bandwidth of 44 nm, and adjusted so that the UV content of the irradiation incident upon the test piece corresponds to that of the CIE illuminant C

Note 1 to entry: The filter function is described more fully by the weighting function factors given in ISO 2470-1, Annex A.

[SOURCE: ISO 2470-1:2009, 3.4, modified]

#### 2.1.2

##### **D65 brightness, R457<sub>D65</sub>**

diffuse blue reflectance factor, UV level D65

intrinsic diffuse radiance (reflectance) factor measured with a reflectometer having the characteristics described in ISO 2469, equipped with a filter or corresponding function having an effective wavelength of 457 nm and a half peak bandwidth of 44 nm, and adjusted so that the UV content of the irradiation incident upon the test piece corresponds to that of the CIE standard illuminant D65

Note 1 to entry: The filter function is described more fully by the weighting function factors given in ISO 2470-2, Annex A and Table A.1.

[SOURCE: ISO 2470-2:2008, 3.4, modified]

#### 2.2

##### **CIE colour matching functions**

$R(\lambda)$

functions in the CIE 1931 standard colorimetric system describing the tristimulus values  $X$ ,  $Y$ ,  $Z$  for monochromatic colour stimuli of equal radiance and where the wavelength  $\lambda$  is a variable