
**Optics and photonics — General
optical test methods — Measurement
of relative irradiance in the image field**

*Optique et photonique — Méthodes générales d'essai optique —
Méthode de mesure de l'éclairement énergétique relatif dans le
champ image*

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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).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 172, *Optics and photonics*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Fundamental standards*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13653:1996), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- A second option for measurement, which does not require a rotation of the specimen but allows to measure along an image diameter, has been included in [7.2.3](#).

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

In every image projected by an optical or electro-optical system, the irradiance varies from the centre to the edge independently of the object structures. It generally decreases, i.e. even an object surface of uniform radiance will be imaged with an irradiance which decreases from the image centre to the edge. In special cases, it can, however, increase. In optical systems which are rotationally invariant, the variation will not always be rotationally invariant, for example if limiting apertures are not rotationally invariant.

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Optics and photonics — General optical test methods — Measurement of relative irradiance in the image field

1 Scope

This document specifies general optical test methods for the measurement of the relative irradiance in the image field.

This document is applicable to optical imaging systems in the optical spectral region from $\lambda = 100$ nm to $\lambda = 1$ μ m. Theoretical reflections and the comparison with the calculation apply only to optical systems. This document is applicable to rotationally invariant and rotationally variant systems; anamorphic systems, for example, are included.

Telescopic systems are also included. The title of this document refers to the relative irradiance in the image field, but this document is also applicable to determination of the relative radiant power.

NOTE For telescopic systems, it is suitable to state only the radiant power; for most imaging systems, the conversion from radiant power to irradiance is easy.

As far as measurements are concerned, this document is also applicable to electro-optical systems.

The two methods described differ particularly in the influence of veiling glare.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

relative irradiance

quotient of radiant power and surface area

Note 1 to entry: When a surface element of the object is imaged, the irradiance in the image is a function

- of the object-space pupil field angle ω_p ;
- of the radiant power which originates from the object element and passes through the lens (and possibly - also through the electro-optical imaging element);
- of the size of the image surface element which is struck by the radiant power.

Note 2 to entry: Radiant power and surface area are functions of the object-space pupil field angle ω_p or of the image position (u', v') .

Note 3 to entry: The relative irradiance is related to the axial surface element.

3.2 object-space pupil field angle

ω_p
angle formed by the optical axis and the line joining the centre of the entrance pupil and the object point

3.3 image-space pupil field angle

ω'_p
angle formed by the optical axis and the line joining the centre of the exit pupil and the image point

4 Quantities, symbols and units

See [Table 1](#).

Table 1 — Quantities, symbols and units

Quantity	Symbol	Unit
Relative irradiance	$E_{rel}(\omega_p)$	%
Function for natural fall-off in brightness	$F_{nat}(\omega_p)$	
Function for relative pupil surface	$F_p(\omega_p)$	
Function for vignetting	$F_{vig}(\omega_p)$	
Function for relative transmission	$F_T(\omega_p)$	
Influence function of distortion	$F_{ver}(\omega_p)$	
Relative distortion	V_r	%
Image coordinates	u' v'	mm mm
Object height (one dimensional)	h	mm
Image height (one dimensional)	h'	mm
Pupil field angle, object-space	ω_p	rad, degree
Pupil field angle, image-space	ω'_p	rad, degree
Azimuth of object to be measured	Φ	rad, degree
Wall thickness of the analysing aperture	t	mm
Diameter of the analysing aperture	d	mm

5 Designation

Two measurement procedures are specified, the first of which has two variants. They are distinguished by symbols. See [Table 2](#).

Table 2 — Symbols for the measurement procedures

Symbol	Measurement procedure
A1	measurement of the relative irradiance at finite image distance
A2	measurement of the relative irradiance at infinite image distance
B	measurement of the relative radiant power

EXAMPLE Designation of a measurement of relative irradiance according to measurement procedure A1:

Measurement of relative irradiance ISO 13653 - A1

6 Description of measurement procedures

6.1 Factors influencing the relative irradiance

6.1.1 General

The angular dependence of the relative irradiance is due to several factors which are independent of one another. In the various measurement and calculation procedures, they are allowed in different ways. It is therefore important to know the individual influence factors. The provisions of 6.1.2 to 6.1.7 are based on the assumption that the object surface is radiant Lambertian and the optical system has a flat entrance pupil.

6.1.2 Natural fall-off in brightness, $F_{\text{nat}} = \cos^4 \omega_p$ (cos⁴ law)

This cos⁴ law shall always apply if the pupil boundary is flat and perpendicular to the axis, the aperture of the test specimen small and the detector area a plane perpendicular to the axis.

6.1.3 Relative pupil surface, $F_p(\omega_p)$

Due to pupil aberrations, the surface of the entrance pupil as an image formed by the aperture stop is a function of the pupil field angle if lens elements are arranged between the object and the aperture stop. The relative surface shall be related to the pupil surface for $\omega_p = 0$.

6.1.4 Vignetting, $F_{\text{vig}}(\omega_p)$

With increasing pupil field angle, rims in front of and behind the aperture stop and other stops can limit (vignette) the aperture.

6.1.5 Influence of the transmission, $F_T(\omega_p)$

Any change of the incident angle on the surfaces of the optical components (lenses, prisms) can result in a change of the reflectivity. The net transmission can change because the paths in glass are a function of the pupil field angle.

6.1.6 Change in size of the image surface element due to distortion

At the image scale $\beta' = 0$

$$F_{\text{ver}}(\omega_p) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{V_r}{100}\right) \cdot \left(1 + \frac{V_r}{100} + \frac{\sin \omega_p \cdot \cos \omega_p}{100} \cdot \frac{dV_r}{d\omega_p}\right)}$$

at finite image scale:

$$F_{\text{ver}}(h) = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{V_r}{100}\right) \cdot \left(1 + \frac{V_r}{100} + \frac{h}{100} \cdot \frac{dV_r}{dh}\right)}$$

6.1.7 Resulting relative irradiance

For the resulting relative irradiance in the image field as a function of the pupil field angle, the following formula is valid:

$$E_{\text{rel}}(\omega_p) = \cos^4 \omega_p \cdot F_p(\omega_p) \cdot F_{\text{vig}}(\omega_p) \cdot F_T(\omega_p) \cdot F_{\text{ver}}(\omega_p)$$

The first four factors are related to a change in radiant power, whereas the last value characterizes the variation in size of the image surface element.

When making irradiance measurements, the radiant power shall pass through the optical system in the same direction that is experienced in normal operation because the influence of distortion and veiling glare will change when the direction of beam travel is reversed.

6.2 Classification of the measurement procedures

Two different measurement procedures are generally acceptable: irradiance measurement and radiant power measurement.

In the case of imaging systems, the procedure for irradiance measurements directly takes all five factors in the formula in [6.1.7](#) into account, and shall, therefore, be given preference.

The procedure of radiant power measurement neglects the effect of distortion on the size of the image surface element. If the value is known, it can be taken into account by calculation.

NOTE For higher accuracy measurements it can be necessary to account for the distortion by calculation. For lower accuracy measurements, it can be neglected. For example at $\omega = 25^\circ$, $V_r = 1\%$, quadratic dependence: $F_{\text{ver}} = 0,961$.

The result of the measurement shall be multiplied by the factor $\cos^3 \omega_p$ so that the relative irradiance is obtained from the relative radiant power.

As compared with the method of irradiance measurement, this procedure offers the advantage that the result is generally influenced to a lesser extent by veiling glare.

According to this document, telescopic systems shall be measured solely by the method of radiant power measurement.

6.3 Brief description of the irradiance measurement

The relative irradiance shall be determined as a function of the image height. This measurement presupposes that there is a uniformly radiating surface in the object space, which behaves as a Lambertian emitter and as a uniform radiance. It need not, however, be situated in the object surface but can also be arranged directly in front of the entrance pupil.

A small reference surface with photoelectric detector shall be displaced by a measurable amount in the image plane; the irradiance shall be measured in arbitrary units as a function of the image height h' , and the measured value shall be related to the axial value (procedure A1, see [Figure 1](#)).

In systems with an infinitely great image distance (e.g. projection lenses), the diaphragm can be arranged at the focus of an auxiliary optical system (telescope optics) which is turned to a measurable degree about the exit pupil of the object (procedure A2, see [Figure 2](#)). The irradiance rated by the radiation detector shall be determined according to the \cos^4 law.

6.4 Brief description of the radiant power measurement

To measure the relative radiant power, the test specimen shall be irradiated with a collimated bundle of rays. The axes of collimator and test specimen can be swung in relation to one another.

In the image space, the passing radiant power shall be measured relative to the axial value as a function of the object-space pupil field angle ω_p , using an integrating sphere and a photoelectric detector (procedure B, see [Figure 3](#)).

7 Measurement of relative irradiance

7.1 Description of the measuring set-up

7.1.1 Source of radiation

To represent a Lambertian radiation characteristic, it is advantageous to insert a diffusing screen into the aperture of an integrating sphere according to [Figure 1](#). In the spectral region in which the specimen is used, the inside surface of the integrating sphere shall be non-selective, and the diffusing screen shall ensure uniform radiance over that part of its surface which is made use of.

The source of radiation shall emit radiation into the test specimen at least from the useful range of the pupil field angle. Within this range, the constancy of the radiance shall be better than 2 %.

7.1.2 Test specimen holder

The test specimen shall be held so that the front edge of its mount abuts almost directly on the diffusing screen or extends so far to the aperture of the integrating sphere that irradiation from the entire useful range of the pupil field angle is ensured.

The test specimen holder may be of the rigid type. To measure in different azimuths test specimens whose mechanical design is not rotationally invariant shall, however, be rotatable about their own axes.

7.1.3 Measuring system

7.1.3.1 General

The measuring system shall consist of the diaphragm, a filter frame and a radiation detector. It shall be possible to axially displace the measuring system so that it can be adjusted to the respective image plane. To adjust the image point, the system shall be displaceable in the image plane by a measurable amount. An auxiliary device is necessary for focussing.

To measure test specimens with an infinitely great image distance, the measuring system shall be arranged in the axial image point of an auxiliary optical system (telescope lens). It shall be possible to horizontally swing the auxiliary optical system, together with the measuring system, to a measurable degree about the exit pupil of the test specimen.

7.1.3.2 Analysing aperture

The analysing aperture has an opening whose size should not exceed 2 % of the maximum image height h' . If this value is exceeded, this is to be stated. The material thickness at its edge and the cone angle at which the opening is chamfered shall be selected so that diaphragm vignetting is less than 1 % even at the greatest image-space pupil field angle ω'_p occurring.

The following formula shall apply to circular diaphragms:

$$t \cdot \tan \omega'_p < 0,01 d$$

where

t is the wall thickness of the diaphragm;

d is the diameter of the diaphragm.

7.1.3.3 Filter

The filter serves to adapt the spectral selectivity. If necessary, the angular dependence of the spectral transmission shall be taken into account.

7.1.3.4 Radiation detector

The responsivity of the radiation detector shall be linear and constant in space. Linearity and spatial constancy errors of up to 1 % are permissible; in the case of errors exceeding this value, corrections shall be applied. The size of the radiation detector shall be sufficient for receiving the entire radiation transmitted by the diaphragm. If necessary, a field lens may be inserted.

The aperture of the radiation detector, i.e. its maximum possible acceptance angle, shall be greater than the aperture of the test specimen plus the image-space pupil field angle ω'_p unless the radiation detector is also horizontally swung about the diaphragm.

7.1.3.5 Auxiliary

It shall be possible to adjust the diaphragm to the desired image plane. For this purpose, auxiliary devices are necessary.

Adjustment can be made mechanically, for example, by means of suitable scales on the measuring arrangements or by adjusting the distance between test specimen and diaphragm using distance gauges. For optical adjustment, the source of radiation shall be replaced by an axial mark at object-to-lens distance, for example, a collimator. In the image space, the radiation detector can be replaced by a magnifier lens or a microscope which can be focussed onto the diaphragm edge.

7.2 Measurement

7.2.1 Adjustment of the measuring set-up

The test specimen shall be placed in the holder and turned so that the reference mark points to the specified azimuth direction. Auxiliary devices shall be used to axially align and focus the diaphragm.

7.2.2 Spectral region

The spectral region shall be adapted to the specific application by a suitable combination of source of radiation, detector and filter.

7.2.3 Determination of measurement value

As a function of the displacement of the diaphragm in the image plane to the desired image height, first the radiant power passing through the diaphragm shall be measured in relative units and related to the value measured when the diaphragm is in its axial position.

There are two options for making this measurement:

- a) The measurement shall be carried out with the test specimen rotated through 360°.
- b) The measurement shall be carried out across the whole image diameter at positive image heights, h' as well as at the equivalent negative image heights, $-h'$, either at a single or at multiple azimuthal angles.

For test specimens whose design is intended to achieve symmetry, the measurement value shall be averaged with reference to the most favourable point of symmetry.

When test specimens with infinite image distance are measured, the result shall be multiplied by the factor $\cos^3\omega'_p$. The measured values shall be stated as percentages of the axial value.

7.2.4 Selection of image heights and image-space pupil field angles

It is recommended to select at least the following image heights and image-space pupil field angles for the measurement:

$h' = 0$	$\omega'_{p'} = 0$
$h' = \pm 0,3 h'_{\max}$	$\omega'_{p'} = \pm 0,3 \omega'_{p',\max}$
$h' = \pm 0,5 h'_{\max}$	$\omega'_{p'} = \pm 0,5 \omega'_{p',\max}$
$h' = \pm 0,7 h'_{\max}$	$\omega'_{p'} = \pm 0,7 \omega'_{p',\max}$
$h' = \pm 0,85 h'_{\max}$	$\omega'_{p'} = \pm 0,85 \omega'_{p',\max}$
$h' = \pm h'_{\max}$	$\omega'_{p'} = \pm \omega'_{p',\max}$

where

h'_{\max} is the maximum image height occurring in practice;

$\omega'_{p',\max}$ is the maximum image-space pupil field angle

When the method 7.2.3 a) is applied, it is not necessary to measure at negative image heights.

If the relative irradiance falls off sharply, and for graphic representation, it is recommended to use a finer gradation, if suitable.

As far as is possible and reasonable, the measurement shall be carried out at the maximum aperture of the test specimen, the smallest adjustable aperture of the test specimen and at stop numbers in between from the power series of 2 (i.e. 2, 4, 8, 16, ...).

In the case of test specimens which are not rotationally invariant, the measurement shall be carried out at several azimuth angles ϕ .

8 Measurement of radiant power

8.1 Description of the measuring set-up

8.1.1 Source of radiation

At an image scale $\beta' = 0$, a uniformly radiating circular surface in the focal plane of a collimator lens shall serve as a source of radiation. Its angular extent, together with the collimator, shall be smaller than 2 % of the maximum object-space pupil field angle $\omega_{p,\max}$. The collimator lens diameter shall be great enough to evenly illuminate the test specimen pupil in all positions. The deviation from the spatial constancy of the radiance of the radiant flux shall be smaller than 2 %. A filter shall be used to adjust the spectral selectivity.

8.1.2 Adjusting elements

To adjust the pupil field angle it is necessary to rotate the collimator and test specimen with respect to each other. This is best done by rotating the test specimen and its holder by a measurable amount about an axis perpendicular to the optical axis. When measuring at different field angles, it is necessary to

capture the correct radiant power in each measurement. To accomplish this, the test specimen shall be translated so that the entrance pupil of the specimen is correctly illuminated.

In the case of test specimens whose mechanical design is not rotationally invariant, for measurements at different azimuths, it shall be possible to rotate the test specimen about its axis.

8.1.3 Measuring system

The measuring system shall consist of an integrating sphere and the radiation detector. It shall be possible, if necessary, to axially and radially displace the system and to horizontally swing it about the entrance port.

8.1.3.1 Integrating sphere

The integrating sphere shall have a measuring port and contain the radiation detector. The detector is covered by a baffle and be arranged perpendicularly above or below the plane of rotation,

To avoid the impact of fractions of specular reflection, the radiation detector shall not be arranged laterally in the plane of rotation. In the spectral region in which the test specimen is used, the inside surface of the integrating sphere shall be non-selective and reflect diffusely. The area of the measuring port plus the detector surface shall be smaller than 2 % of the sphere surface.

8.1.3.2 Radiation detector

The sensitivity of the radiation detector shall be linear. Linearity errors of up to 1 % are permissible; if errors exceed this value, corrections shall be applied.

8.2 Measurement

8.2.1 Adjustment of the measuring set-up

8.2.1.1 Systems with finite image conjugates

The test specimen shall be placed in the holder and turned so that the reference mark points to the specified azimuth direction. The holder shall then be axially displaced to the position in which the perpendicular axis of rotation runs through the entrance pupil of the test specimen. The measuring system shall be adjusted in both coordinate directions so that the image point lies approximately in the centre of the measuring port of the integrating sphere. For all measurements, approximately the same surface in the rear wall of the sphere shall be irradiated, so it has to be possible to swing the sphere about its entrance port.

The measurement is easier and more convenient when the perpendicular axis of rotation runs through the image-space nodal point of the test specimen and not through the entrance pupil. In this case, the test specimen's focal point no longer moves laterally when the test specimen is swung, so that tracking of the measuring system is not necessary. This procedure shall, however, be permitted only if, during lateral movement, the entrance pupil does not get out of the range of the homogeneous bundle leaving the collimator. The sphere shall, however, also be swung about its entrance port so that each time the same point of the sphere's rear wall is irradiated.

8.2.1.2 Telescopic systems

The test specimen shall be placed in the holder and be axially displaced, preferably to such an extent that the entrance pupil remains in front of the collimator aperture when the test specimen is swung. The measuring port of the integrating sphere shall be moved approximately into the plane of the exit pupil.

8.2.2 Spectral region

The spectral region shall be adapted to the specific application by a suitable combination of source of radiation, detector and filter.

8.2.3 Determination of the measurement value

The test specimen holder shall be swung through the desired angle. Where telescopic systems are concerned, the holder of the measuring system shall be suitably tracked sideways to compensate for the angle. The radiant power through the lens shall be measured and recorded in relative units and related to the value measured in the axial position. The measurement shall be carried out in both directions of swing.

For test specimens whose design is intended to achieve symmetry, the measured values shall be averaged with reference to the most favourable point of symmetry. When test specimens are measured by the method of radiant power, the results shall be multiplied by the factor $\cos^3 \omega_p$ and the influence function of distortion F_{ver} determined separately in order to obtain the relative irradiance.

The measurement values shall be stated as percentages of the axial value.

8.2.4 Selection of the object-space pupil field angles

It is recommended to select at least the following object-space pupil field angles for measurement:

$$\omega_p = 0$$

$$\omega_p = \pm 0,3 \omega_{p,\text{max}}$$

$$\omega_p = \pm 0,5 \omega_{p,\text{max}}$$

$$\omega_p = \pm 0,7 \omega_{p,\text{max}}$$

$$\omega_p = \pm 0,85 \omega_{p,\text{max}}$$

$$\omega_p = \pm \omega_{p,\text{max}}$$

where $\omega_{p,\text{max}}$ is the maximum object-space pupil field angle occurring in practice.

If the irradiance falls off sharply, and for graphical representation, it is recommended to use a finer gradation, if suitable.

As far as possible and reasonable, the measurement shall be carried out at the maximum aperture of the test specimen, the smallest adjustable aperture of the test specimen and at stop numbers in between from the power series of 2 (i.e. 2, 4, 8, 16, ...).

In the case of test specimens which are not rotationally invariant, the measurement shall be carried out at several azimuth angles ϕ .

9 Presentation of results

9.1 Tabular form

For rotationally invariant test specimens, the rows of the table shall give the values for the image heights or pupil field angles, and the columns the values for various stop numbers.

In set-ups that are not rotationally invariant, and if the measurements are carried out at different azimuths, the columns shall first specify the values for different azimuths.

9.2 Graphical representation

9.2.1 Curves of measured values

For systems with finite image conjugates, plot the results as a function of image height, h' , for test specimens with infinitely great image distance, plot results against the image-space pupil field angle $\omega'_{p'}$ and for telescopic systems plot results against the object-space pupil field angle ω_p . Plot the data for the various aperture settings on one graph.

The ranges 0 to 100 % for the values of the relative irradiance plotted on the ordinate and for the values of the relative image height or of the relative pupil field angle plotted on the abscissa shall be represented in a diagram, preferably as a section 100 mm long with linear subdivision (see [Figure 4](#)).

9.2.2 Curves of equal relative irradiance

For asymmetrical test specimens, the measured values may be represented by curves of equal relative irradiance plotted over the image format. The maximum image height h'_{\max} (the maximum image-space pupil field angle $\omega'_{p',\max}$) shall correspond to 50 mm. The gradation of the values shall be selected so that three or four curves can be drawn (see [Figure 5](#)).

See [Table 3](#) for the survey of the application of measuring procedures and presentation of results.

Table 3 — Survey of the application of measuring procedures and presentation of results

Distance		Procedure	Coordinate values		Origin of values
object	image		abscissa	ordinate	
infinite	finite	A1	h'	irradiance	measured value
		B	$\omega_p(u')$	irradiance	{measured value} $\cos^3 \omega_p \cdot F_{\text{ver}}$
finite	infinite	A2	$\omega'_{p'}$	irradiance	{measured value} $\cos^3 \omega'_{p'}$
finite	finite	A1	h'	irradiance	measured value
infinite	infinite	B	ω_p	radiant power	measured value

10 Test report

As far as relevant and necessary, in addition to the representation of the measured values, the following variable parameters of the measurement or calculation, fixed parameters of the boundary conditions and object specifications shall be stated, in the following order:

- a) laboratory or company;
- b) reference to this document, i.e. ISO 13653:2019;
- c) indication whether the values have been measured or calculated;
- d) description of the test specimen (e.g. designation, manufacturer, serial No.);
- e) vignetting apertures additionally considered;
- f) measuring procedure;
- g) adjustment selected or focussing criterion;
- h) description of the reference mark;
- i) azimuth angle of the measurement;

- j) maximum image height or maximum pupil field angle;
- k) stop value or aperture;
- l) imaging scale;
- m) angular magnification;
- n) ambient temperature and humidity.

11 Examples

11.1 Measurement of relative irradiance by procedure A1 (see [Figure 4](#), [Table 4](#))

Laboratory	XYZ Development Optics - Measurement Technology
Measurement standard	ISO 13653: 2019
Specimen	ABC 1: 1,4/ f = 80 mm Messrs. XYZ No. 1 234 567
Measuring procedure	A1
Image format	24 mm × 36 mm
Maximum image height	21,6 mm
Image scale	$\beta' = 0$

Table 4 – Relative irradiance as a function of stop value

Image height, h' mm	Stop number		
	1,4	2	4
0	100,0 %	100,0 %	100,0 %
6,5	86,3 %	97,5 %	97,5 %
10,8	71,0 %	94,5 %	94,5 %
15,1	54,0 %	83,0 %	91,2 %
18,4	41,5 %	67,4 %	87,0 %
21,6	29,2 %	48,8 %	82,6 %

11.2 Example of the representation of curves of equal relative irradiance against the image field (see [Figure 5](#))

Laboratory	XYZ
Measurement standard	ISO 13653: 2019
Specimen	DEF 1: 1,3/ f = 56 mm