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Plastics — Parameters comparing the spectral irradiance of a laboratory light source for weathering applications to a reference solar spectral irradiance

Plastiques — Paramètres de comparaison de la distribution spectrale d'une source de lumière de laboratoire pour les applications de vieillissement et d'une distribution spectrale solaire de référence

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Contents

Page

Foreword ... **iv**

Introduction ... **v**

1 Scope ... **1**

2 Normative references ... **1**

3 Terms and definitions ... **1**

4 Symbols ... **1**

5 Significance ... **2**

6 Requirements ... **2**

7 Calculation methods ... **2**

7.1 Characterizing parameter for a wavelength range ... 2

7.1.1 Choice of the wavelength range ... 2

7.1.2 Scaling condition ... 3

7.1.3 Characterizing parameter $\boldsymbol{f}_{\lambda 1\text{-}\lambda 2}$ for a wavelength range ... 4

7.2 Characterizing parameter for a known action spectrum ... 4

7.2.1 Choice of the wavelength range with action spectrum ... 4

7.2.2 Scaling condition with action spectrum ... 4

7.2.3 Characterizing parameter $\boldsymbol{f}_{s(\lambda)1\text{-}s(\lambda)2}$ with action spectrum ... 5

Annex A (informative) **Examples for parameters of some commercially available solar simulators** ... **6**

Bibliography ... **8**

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).

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).

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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 61, *Plastics*, Subcommittee SC 6, *Ageing, chemical and environmental resistance*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/TR 18486:2016), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

— Figures 1, 2 and A.1: the keys and their key descriptions have been corrected;

— the document has been editorially revised.

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

Laboratory radiation sources generate radiation which is intended to simulate a defined “reference sun” as perfect as possible, where the fitting to the spectral irradiance in the materials sensitive range is most important. So far, the fitting is described verbally only (e.g. standards concerning artificial weathering) and the user decides for himself if the spectral irradiance $E(\lambda)$ indicated by the producer of the laboratory radiation source agrees suitable enough with the “reference sun” for his specific application or, occasionally, the classification describes the fitting to a wanted “reference sun” only insufficiently (e.g. for standard weathering tests).

This document deals with a procedure for the determination of objective factors characterizing the grade of fitting in quantity.

One procedure describes the grade of fitting of a laboratory radiation source to the defined reference sun for specific spectral ranges. A second procedure results in characterizing parameters for the respective wavelength ranges, incorporating known action spectra.

Plastics — Parameters comparing the spectral irradiance of a laboratory light source for weathering applications to a reference solar spectral irradiance

1 Scope

This document specifies a calculation method which allows calculating a parameter which compares the spectral irradiance of a laboratory radiation source for weathering application to a reference solar spectral irradiance.

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
spectral irradiance
E_λ
radiant flux per unit area per wavelength interval

Note 1 to entry: It is measured in watts per square metre per nanometre ($W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot nm^{-1}$).

3.2
action spectrum
description of the spectral efficiency of radiation to produce a particular polymer response (specific property change of a specific polymer) plotted as a function of the wavelength of the radiation

Note 1 to entry: Data of an action spectrum are specific to the polymer but independent from the radiation source, also named spectral sensitivity.

4 Symbols

$E(\lambda)_{ref.}$ spectral irradiance of reference sun ($W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot nm^{-1}$)

$E(\lambda)_{source}$ spectral irradiance of laboratory radiation source ($W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot nm^{-1}$)

$E(\lambda)_{scaled}$ scaled spectral irradiance of laboratory radiation source ($W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot nm^{-1}$)

$s(\lambda)$ action spectrum

5 Significance

The total sun spectrum is not needed for all applications of simulated solar radiation (laboratory radiation source). Therefore, for economic reasons, it is advisable to only simulate the spectral range that is important for the respective process or, in cases of application, where the object's heating has to be observed in close limits, for example, with biological objects. In this case, both VIS and IR radiation have to be eliminated to a great extent (see Table 1).

Table 1 — Compilation of laboratory radiation sources for different spectral ranges and examples for their applications

Solar simulators for	Examples for application
UV (A+B)	photochemistry, photo dermatology
UV-A	photo dermatology, testing of polymeric material
UV + VIS	testing of polymeric materials
UV + VIS + IR	testing of technical materials or components including thermal stress
VIS + IR	thermal stress of the object, in most cases without photochemistry

Due to the many technical types of laboratory radiation sources, no general characteristics for comparing the spectral irradiance to the reference solar radiation can be given. It is only possible to indicate the comparison for a given wavelength range or for a certain application whose action spectrum is known.

6 Requirements

Historically, CIE 85:1989, Table 4[9] has been used as the benchmark reference spectrum distribution for weathering applications. However, CIE 85[9], which was published in 1989, has several disadvantages: global solar spectral irradiance starts at 305 nm, the increments are rather rough and the calculation code is no longer available. Therefore, reference spectral irradiance should be used which are calculated with the SMARTS2 model[10] (e.g. ISO/TR 17801, ASTM G177).

For the calculations, a spectral resolution of 1 nm is required.

NOTE CIE is currently revising CIE 85[9] to provide a reference spectrum in the necessary 1 nm resolution.

The spectral irradiance of the solar simulator $E(\lambda)_{\text{source}}$ or the scaled laboratory radiation source spectrum $E(\lambda)_{\text{scaled}}$ is required with a spectral resolution of 1 nm.

7 Calculation methods

7.1 Characterizing parameter for a wavelength range

7.1.1 Choice of the wavelength range

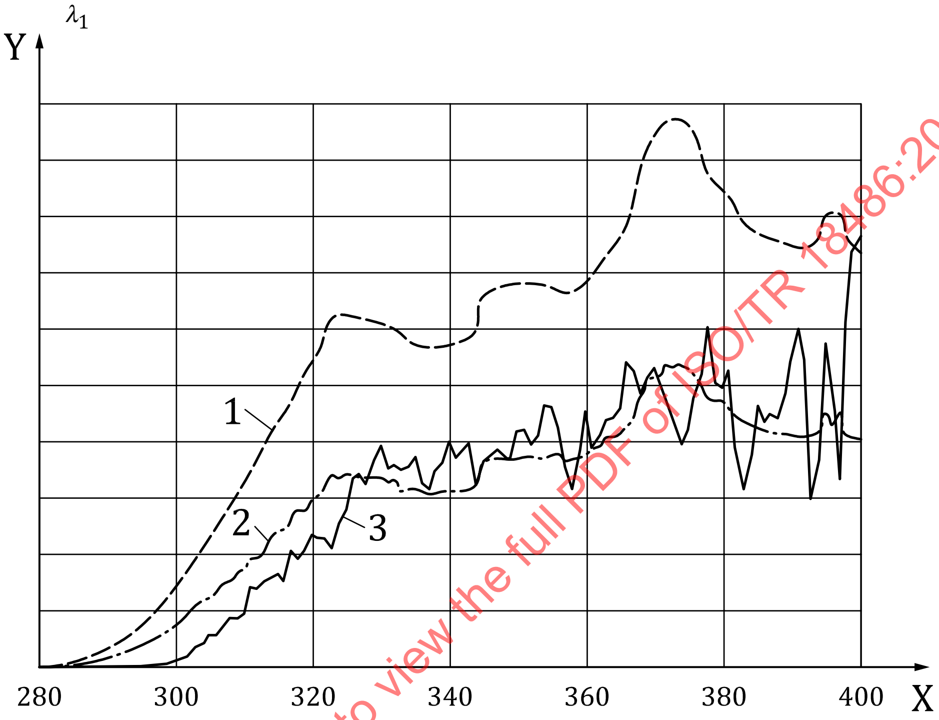
A wavelength range of $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda \leq \lambda_2$ for the characterizing fitting should be selected. The wavelength range should be larger than 10 nm.

NOTE Table A.1 shows examples of relevant wavelength ranges.

7.1.2 Scaling condition

The spectral irradiance of the laboratory radiation source $E(\lambda)_{source}$ is scaled according to the reference sun distribution $E(\lambda)_{ref.}$, as shown in Formula (1), in the chosen wavelength range (for example, see Figure 1).

$$\int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} E(\lambda)_{\text{ref.}}\, d\lambda = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} E(\lambda)_{\text{scaled}}\, d\lambda \qquad (1)$$



Key

1 laboratory radiation source $E(\lambda)_{source}$

2 scaled laboratory radiation source $E(\lambda)_{scaled}$ according to 7.1.2

3 reference sun $E(\lambda)_{ref.}$

X wavelength in nm

Y spectral irradiance (au)

Figure 1 — Example for scaling according to 7.1.2

7.1.3 Characterizing parameter $f_{\lambda1\text{-}\lambda2}$ for a wavelength range

The characterizing parameter $f_{\lambda1\text{-}\lambda2}$ for the wavelength range $\lambda_1 \le \lambda \le \lambda_2$ is calculated by Formula (2):

$$f_{\lambda_1-\lambda_2} = \frac{\int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} \left| E(\lambda)_{\text{scaled}} - E(\lambda)_{\text{ref.}} \right| \cdot d\lambda}{\int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} E(\lambda)_{\text{ref.}}\, d\lambda} \times 100 \qquad (2)$$

NOTE For an ideal fitting of $E(\lambda)$ to a reference sun, the parameter f reads $f = 0$. The higher the number, the worse is the fitting.

7.2 Characterizing parameter for a known action spectrum

7.2.1 Choice of the wavelength range with action spectrum

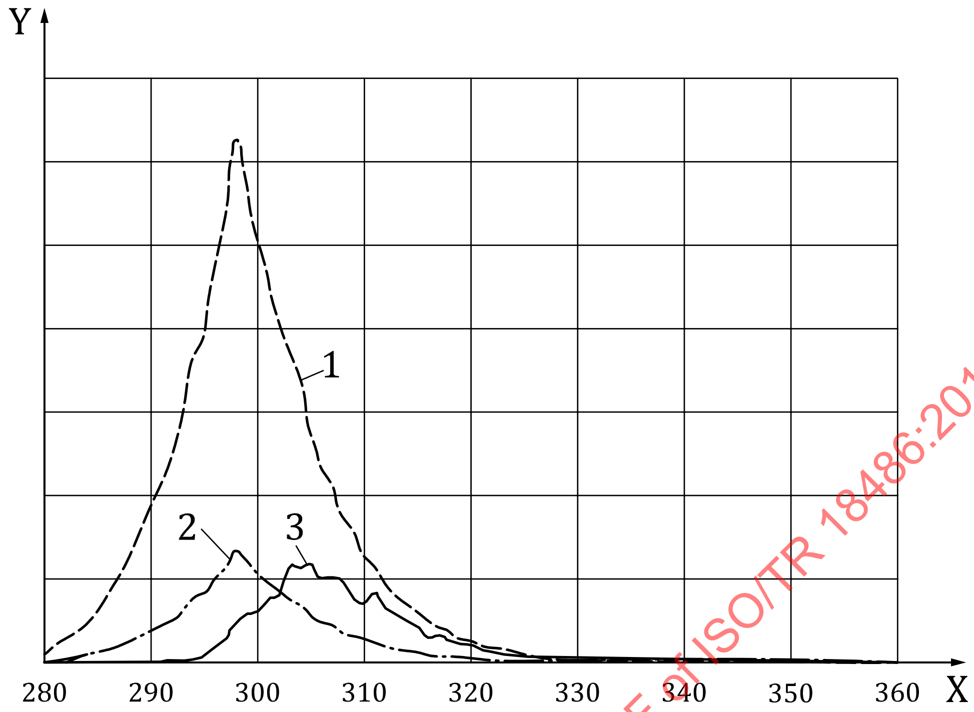
A wavelength range of $\lambda_1 \le \lambda \le \lambda_2$ for the characterizing fitting should be selected.

For the selected wavelength range, the action spectrum should be known in the spectral resolution of 1 nm.

7.2.2 Scaling condition with action spectrum

In case the action spectrum $s(\lambda)$ for the photochemical process to be tested is known, the scaling conditions is (for example, see Figure 2) as given in Formula (3):

$$\int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} E(\lambda)_{\text{ref.}}\, s(\lambda) \cdot d\lambda = \int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} E(\lambda)_{\text{scaled}}\, s(\lambda) \cdot d\lambda \qquad (3)$$



Key

1 laboratory radiation source $E(\lambda)_{source}$ multiplied by $s(\lambda)$

2 scaled laboratory radiation source $E(\lambda)_{scaled}$ multiplied by $s(\lambda)$ according to 7.2.2

3 reference sun $E(\lambda)_{ref.}$ multiplied by $s(\lambda)$

X wavelength in nm

Y spectral photochemical irradiance (au)

Figure 2 — Example for scaling according to 7.2.2

7.2.3 Characterizing parameter $f_{s(\lambda)1\text{-}s(\lambda)2}$ with action spectrum

A characterizing parameter $f_{s(\lambda)1\text{-}s(\lambda)2}$ for the significant wavelength range $\lambda_1 \le \lambda \le \lambda_2$ for a photochemical process characterized by an action spectrum $s(\lambda)$ is calculated by Formula (4):

$$f_{s(\lambda)1-s(\lambda)2} = \frac{\int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} \left| E(\lambda)_{\text{scaled}} - E(\lambda)_{\text{ref.}} \right| \cdot s\lambda \cdot d\lambda}{\int_{\lambda_1}^{\lambda_2} E(\lambda)_{\text{ref.}}\, s(\lambda) \cdot d\lambda} \times 100 \quad (4)$$

NOTE For an ideal fitting of $E(\lambda)$ to a reference sun, the parameter f reads $f = 0$. The higher the number, the worse is the fitting.

If the parameter $f_{s(\lambda)}$ for a photochemical process is characterized by an action spectrum $s(\lambda)$, it makes sense to integrate over the entire active wavelength range. In this case, the parameter should be named f_s.

Annex A
(informative)

Examples for parameters of some commercially available solar simulators

Laboratory testing of materials with the simultaneous and cyclic stress factors of natural solar radiation, sample temperature and rain/humidity (weathering) is usually carried out in accordance with standard test methods. The applied standards (e.g. ISO 4892-1, ISO 4892-2, ISO 4892-3 and ISO 4892-4) contain a “reference spectrum” for natural solar radiation. The CIE 85:1989, Table 4[9] has been used for this for more than 20 years.

A recalculation of this reference spectrum with SMARTS2[10] was suggested in 2008[11]. Another spectrum of a reference sun for weathering calculated with SMARTS2[9] is available in the ASTM G177. The recalculation of CIE 85:1989, Table 4[11] is used as an example for laboratory weathering material testing (see Figure A.1). Examples of calculated parameters according to the methods described in 7.1.2 and 7.1.3 are shown in Table A.1. The lower the characteristic factor, the better the fitting to the reference sun is. The best fitting for the entire UV wavelength range is obtained for filtered xenon radiation and in the range below 360 nm for the fluorescent lamp UV 340, whereby the quality of the fitting for xenon radiation depends on the selected filtering. This is important because the weathering test result depends on the interaction of three critical factors: irradiance (and the quality of the selected fitting for the wavelength range of interest), temperature and moisture (in the form of humidity, condensation and/or water spray). The variation range of the characteristic factor for filtered xenon radiation specified in Table A.1 approximately corresponds to the tolerance range of the xenon spectral irradiance in common laboratory weathering standards (for example, ISO 4892-2 and ISO 16474-2) for simulated daylight.

